MATURITY WITH CLASS CHIRON RISING MAGAZINE ISSUE #85 $7.95

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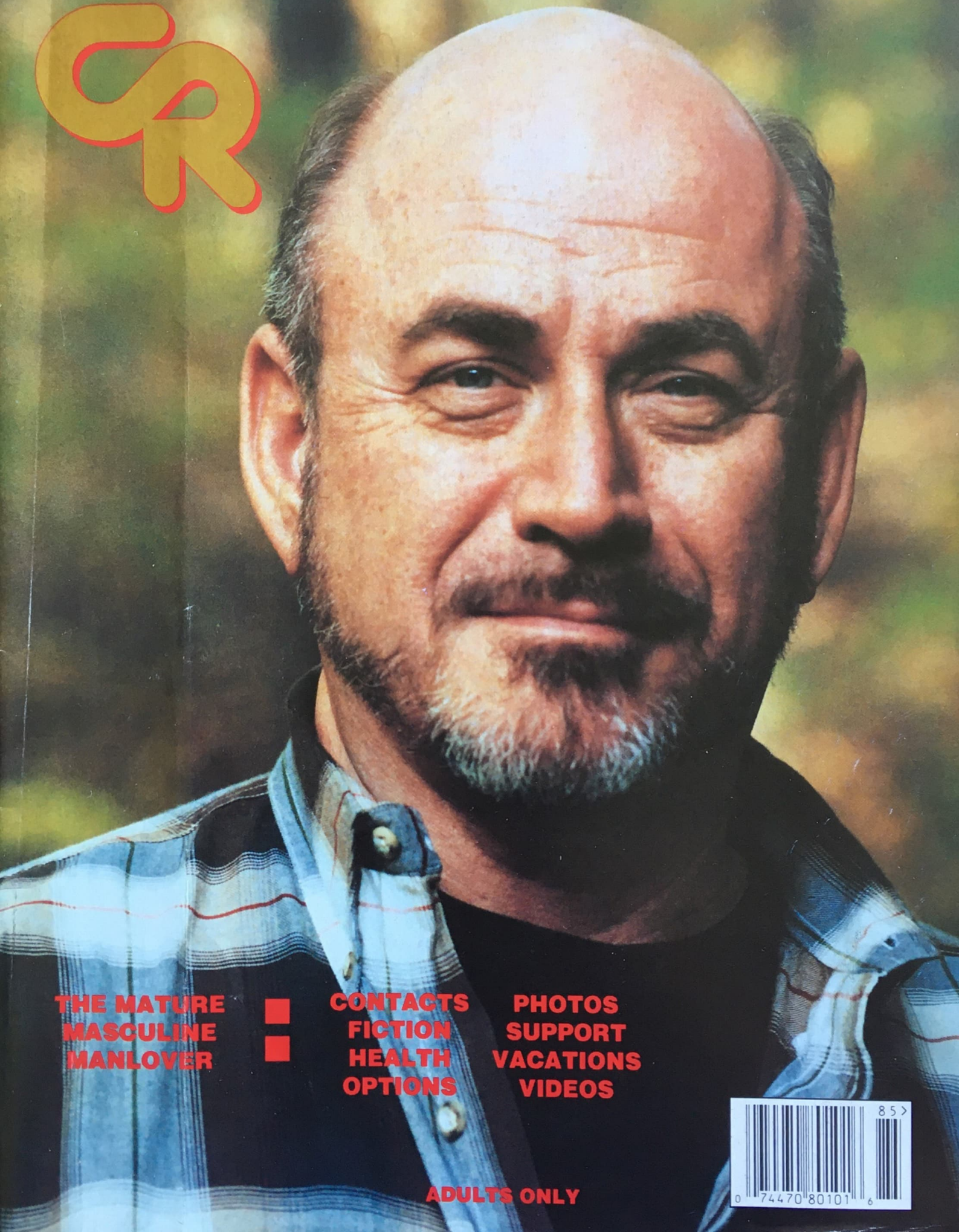

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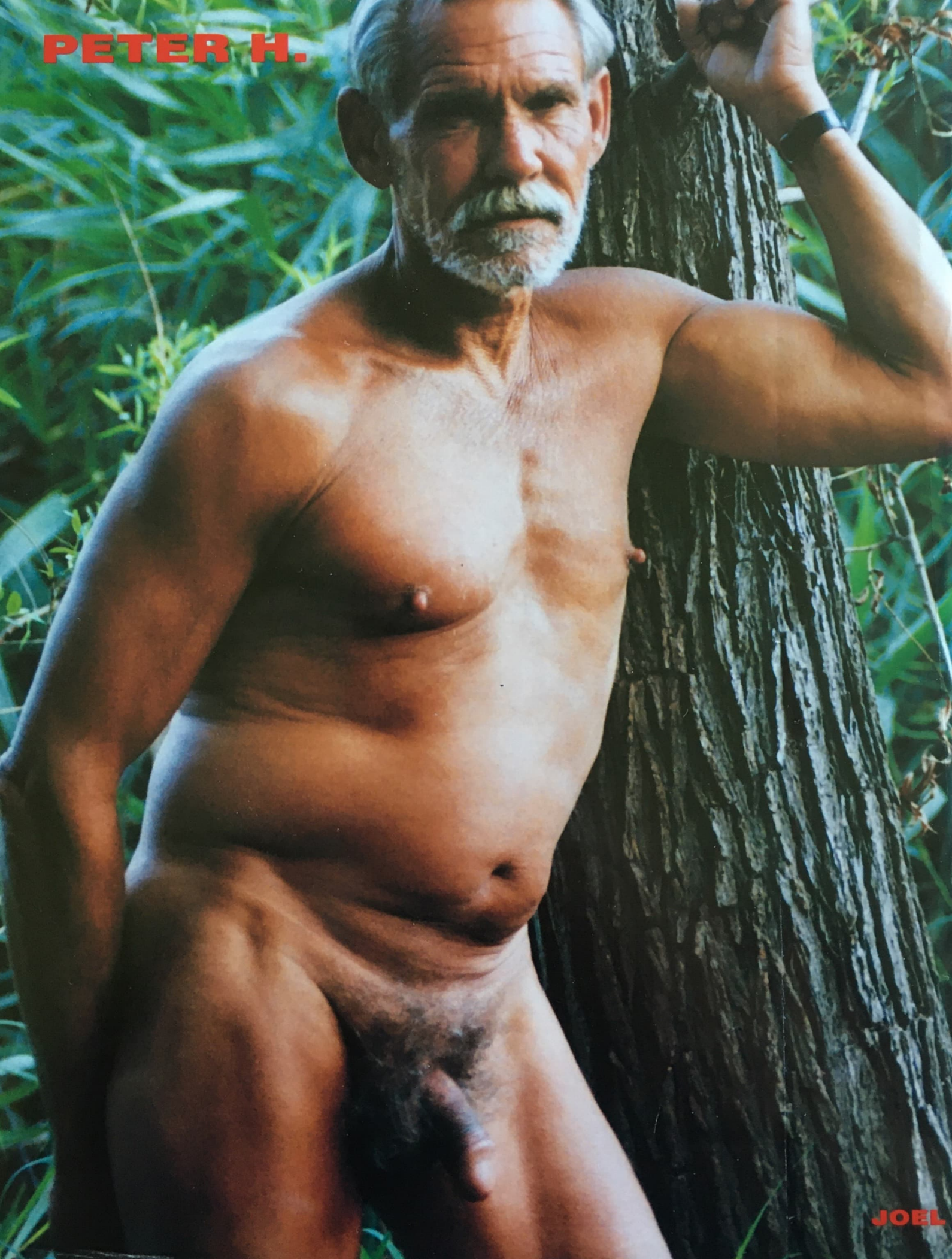
PETER H.
JOEL

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WHO'S WHO IN THIS ISSUE

MODELS

FRONT COVER -**GENTLE BEAR**: 58, 5'-10", 230#, Tampa Bay, in an open relationship. Likes travel, performing/ conducting choral music, antiques, flea markets, meeting people, chatting on AOL. Looking for the opportunity of developing new friendships.

PAGE 2 - **PETER H.**: (See bio for page 27)

PAGE 10 - **U.K. ANDY**: 39, 6 ft., 18 stone, England, single. Likes musicals, animals, occasional drink, motorbikes. Looking for 55+ men, white or gray hair, of medium build.

PAGE 11 - **HENRY**: 68, 6 ft., 200#, Chicago, single. Likes skiing, biking, theater, opera. Looking for great guy.

PAGE 14 - **RICAN**: 57, 5'-8", 196#, Bronx, NY, single. Likes television, reading, quiet evenings, touching. Looking for top, dominant men, good friends, long-term relationship.

PAGE 15 - **DADDY'S BOY**: 30, 5'-8", 190#, Phoenix, single. Likes country & western dancing, all kinds of music, sports, outdoors, computers. Looking for daddies for good times and more. Friend of Bill W. E-mail: huskycub@yahoo.com

PAGE 16 - **ARIZONA FISHERMAN**: 69, 5'-9", 190#, Mesa, AZ, single. Likes fishing, hunting, bowling.

PAGE 17 - **SEBASTIAN**: 72, 6'-2", 180#, N.E. Florida. Likes reading, films, music of classical/modern Brits, beaches & mountains, Victorian houses, bridge, tennis, animals/animal rights. Looking for traveling companion/friends/penpals his age or older.

PAGE 22 - **TECHNO**: 61, 5'-11", 200#, Michigan, single. Likes non-fiction books, collectibles, music, humor, cards, good friends. Looking for honest, independent, possible long-term companion/mate. **BIG HANDS**: 54, 6 ft., 188#, Tustin, California, in an open relationship. Likes slender men in their 50s. Looking for hands-on passion in bed.

PAGE 23 - **BOBALOO**: 55, 5'-8", 175#, Springfield, MA, single. Likes massage, old Hollywood, nude sunbathing. Looking for like-minded men. **CHRIS OF THE NETHERLANDS**: 37, 1.72 m, 63 kg, The Netherlands, in an open relationship. Likes classical music, travel, meeting people. Looking for short, chubby, big-bellied, clean-shaven, age 50-75.

PAGE 26 - **BIG JIM**: 74, 6'-4", 215#, Nashville, single. Likes oral sex, traveling, photography, meeting friends, hugging and kissing. Looking for top man, 50 and over, mostly silver foxes. **L.G.**: 60, 6'-5", 220#, Northern Idaho, single. Likes nude sunbathing, coin collecting, gardening, travel. Looking for penpals with like interests.

PAGE 27 - **PETER H. & JACK B.**: 59/66, 5'-9"/5'-7", 160#/183#, Laguna Beach, in an open relationship with each other. Like furry men, bears, daddy types. Looking for diversity, mature, any age.

PAGE 28 - **SOUTHERN COMFORT**: 42, 5'-7", 210#, Midwest, single. Likes older men, cuddling, hugging, kissing, drag racing, and flea markets. Looking for long-term relationship in California or Florida.

PAGE 29 - **SANTA CLAUS & GRANDPA CHASER**: 70/37, 5'-8"/5'-7", 325#/155#, Michigan, in an open relationship with each other. SC likes playing Santa during craft shows, collecting TV lamps. Looking for horny, slim studs, hairy bodies, young. GC likes older, heavy, grandpa types, comedy, flea markets, toy shows, muscle cars., Looking for grandpa types over 250#, 5'-7" or under, with lots of body hair. Loves beards and mustches.

PAGE 30: **BOB BOONE**: 62, 5'-7", 120#, Virginia East Coast, single. Likes travel, dining out, teaching new things oral. Looking for medium to well-hung GWM, white hair, 70+, sincere and clean. **M.G.**: 39, 5'-6", 126#, Central Florida, single. Likes cooking, camping, long walks, gardening, quiet times at home, fun, cuddling. Looking for GWM, 50 to 64, not overweight, who is looking for a long-term, monogamous relationship. Hairy okay or bald. **BIG O**: 55, 5'-8", 220#, single, Florida. Looking for relationship with men 30s and 40s.

PAGE 31: **TECUMSEH**: 62, 5'-10", 200#, San Antonio, in an open relationship. Likes fitness, writing, and nudism. Looking for interesting men of all ages. E-mail: Tecumsehtx@aol.com **PALM SPRINGS BILL**: 49, 5'-10", 180#, Palm Springs, in an open relationship. Likes nude hiking, camping, gardening. Looking for friendships, penpals, hiking and camping buddies. **MR. B OF OKLAHOMA**: 59, 5'-8", 170#, Oklahoma, in an open relationship. Likes movies, travel, cooking, dining out, quiet evenings at home. Looking for fatherly type, 62+, financially secure, chubby, cut, nonsmoker, social drinker.

PAGE 32 - **THE JOCKEY**: 66, 5'-2", 130#, San Jose, California, single. Likes cooking, sports, a lot of activity. Looking for men, 60+, and 5'-8" or under, in-shape.

PAGE 33 - **PEEWIT**: 61, 6 ft., 200#, Brooklyn, in an open relationship. Likes writing porno, the beach, theater, giving oral sex, and unsolicited opinions. Looking for typographical errors, chubby men over 30 for oral sex without strings (photo first), and accomplished penpals. (Careful, he's a KILLER penpal.) **AN AMERICAN IN PARIS**: 57. 5'-9", 160#, Paris. Likes music, travel, food, cooking, and sex. Looking for fun people, any age, size, shape, or color. Often in North America. **RACER X**: 39, 5'-8", 180#, Maryland, single. Likes auto racing, eating out. Not really looking, just shopping around.

PAGE 34 - **GERONT**: 43, 5'-6", 180#, England, in a closed relationship. Likes older gentlemen, 60+, big build, 250# plus. Looking for penpals world-wide by post or email at Geront@aol.com **COOKIE MAN**: 72, 5'-9", 120#, North Carolina, single. Likes music, quiet evenings at home, eating out. Looking for friends, possible long-term relationship. **DADDY G**: 71, 6 ft., 228#, SE Pennsylvania, single. Likes dining, movies, good humor, theater, and honest friends. Looking for singles/couples, 55-80, chubby a plus, for friendship and sex. Also looking for sincere penpals. **DUMPY & DAISEY**: 54/56, 6'-2"/5'-1/2", 186#/175#, Brooklyn, in an open

relationship with each other. Like social nudity, theater, country music, small indoor/outdoor gatherings. Looking for friends and couples in nearby areas with same interests.

PAGE 38 - **RON OF THE DESERT**: 64, 5'-9", 260#, High Desert of California, single. Likes gardening, arts & crafts, music. Looking for fat, old men.

PAGE 40 - **FURRY DADDY**: 59, 6'-1", 250#, Austin, single. Likes computers, travel, theater, classic movies, composing ballads. Looking for hairy, husky cubs, 30s-40s.

PAGE 49 - **WILLIAM OF HASTINGS**: 68, 5'-10", 235#, South Coast of England, in an open relationship. Likes music, cookery, countryside, England's south coast, travel, entertaining visitors. Looking for friendly singles/couples, 25 plus.

PAGE 50 - **TAURUS**: 66, 5'-10", 185#, Michigan/Florida West Coast, single. Likes travel, nudity, reading, the company of warm-hearted men. Looking for one good man to cuddle up with. **ARNIE**: 62, 5'-9", 195#, Rhode Island, in an open relationship. Likes computers, travel, swimming, nudism, hiking. Looking for fun with older men, good company, friendships.

PAGE 52 - **DON OF THE DESERT**: 60+, 5'-9", 185#, Palm Springs, single. Likes sunshine, friendships, travel, movies, quiet times. Looking for men, 35-40s and 50s, possible relationship or travel companions.

PAGE 55 - **PETER OF LOS ANGELES**: 55, 6 ft., 200#, Los Angeles, single, retired, HIV negative. Likes fun and travel. Looking for WM, 40+, light eyes, body in proportion for possible relationship.

PAGE 59 - **MOVIE BUFF**: 56, 5'-4", 250#, Los Angeles, single. Likes music, theater, old black & white movies, fine dining. Looking for Mr. Right—someone 30s to 50s to share his life with who is romantic, caring, and sincere.

BACK COVER - **NET BEAR**: 25, 5'-11", 350#, San Francisco Bay Area, single. Likes romance, hot tubs, and true gentlemen. Looking for both friends and possible long-term relationships.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

MIKE DEVEAU: 45, 5'-10", 220#, Palm Springs, single. He likes to have fun and is looking for other people to have fun with. Destined to photograph every hot mature man in the Palm Springs area.

JOEL: 32, Austin, in an open relationship with CR model THOM. He's always on the lookout for new models and has been known to travel widely just for the perfect shot.

MANNY: 48, 6'-3", 235#, Maryland, single. Looking for a long-term relationship with just the right mature, masculine, husky gentleman, 50+, who is healthy and hairy. Short and stocky men turn him on as well as the big and burly kind. The best cover-quality photographer around.

PHOTOMAN: Late 40s, St. Louis, single. An expert at getting hot, mature men (as well as admirers) to take it all off for the camera. A retired professional photographer who will travel for a good photo shoot. In an exciting new relationship with CR model BARE TOM.

ARTISTS

QUETZAL, 45, is a very bright and attractive artist who lives with model PLOVER in West Hollywood. He's recently come out with a new "Hand Jive Comix" that you won't want to miss.

CHUCKEE is 71, 5'-7", 230#, and lives in San Francisco. He is in an open relationship with CR model DAN-DEE. He likes laughs, surprising someone every day, weightlifting, swimming, and DAN-DEE. He's a beloved celebrity in San Francisco circles for all his volunteer work, and his greeting cards are sold all over the region. He's even a great standup comic in addition to being an outrageous cartoonist.

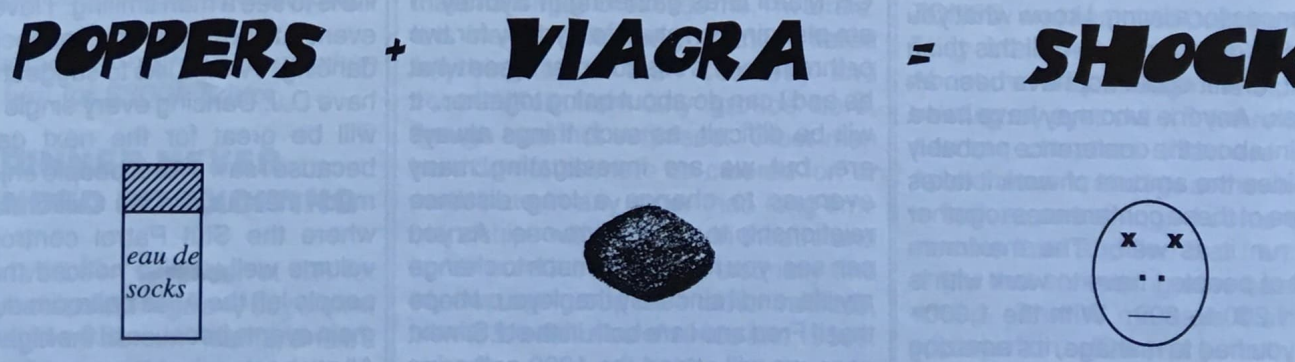
WRITERS

GIRAFFE, 75, lives in San Francisco with a cat named Gato. He enjoys stocky, stout fellows with a good sense of humor. He's in the CR Hall of Fame and is one of our most prolific and popular writers. His recent book of short stories, *Willy & Giraffe*, has landed a distributor and is selling across the country.

KEN GOULD is 69, 5'-11", 165#, single, and lives in New Jersey. He is one of the sharpest men we have ever dealth with, but he is also one of the most genuine and caring. Ken formed and became the first president of the New York Chapter of Prime Timers, just after the organization was started by Woody Baldwin.

P.H. COLLEY is 58, 6 ft., 300#, in an open relationship with BRUCE, CR's publisher. In addition to being the editor of CR, he has written and published eight novels, a book of short stories, and various short fiction published in CR and CR Classics.

NOTE: WRITE TO ANY CONTRIBUTOR THE SAME WAY YOU WOULD WRITE AN ADVERTISER WITH A CODEWORD. SEE PAGE 46 FOR DETAILS.



FORUM

GATHERING '98

>> I just wanted to say what a fantastic time I had at the Gathering in San Diego. It was quite an emotional event for me, one that I will not soon forget. I finally got to see first-hand what my friends UPBEAT 7 and TURBO had been telling me for a couple of years. As this was my first Gathering, I expected it to make an impression on me but not as much as it has. Seeing models such as FURRY DADDY (woof!) and all the others (who until the conference were more like fictional characters to me) was quite exciting. But the conference, for me, was more than just really handsome men. I have always felt like an outcast of sorts, not only because I am gay, but also because I enjoy the company of older men. To be attending an event that included so many handsome, mature men, made me feel very special. After dinner on the final evening, as everyone began dancing, I was overcome with emotion at how wonderful an event this really is. I saw for the first time how much this group really is an extended family of sorts. It brought me to tears, and I had to leave the room. I've got a very thick skin when it comes to feeling my emotions, so for something to affect me this much, it had to be pretty powerful and special. I don't know what ever possessed you to start CR to begin with, but thank God you did. I am very grateful to you both. I am already making plans to attend the Orlando Gathering in 1999 and would like to volunteer my services if you need them. One more point I would like to make is that as I run conferences for a living, I know what you two had to go through to pull this thing together, and it could not have been an easy task. Anyone who may have had a complaint about the conference probably has no idea the amount of work it takes to put one of these conferences together and to run it as well. The maximum amount of people I have to work with is between 200 to 300. With the 1,000+ people you had to manage, it's amazing you both had any time to breathe. Thanks again to you both. I hope you now have a few moments to relax and catch up with the rest of your lives. Take care. Tom. A./New York

>> Due to illness, I will have to cancel my "B" package for the gathering. It does not surprise me that many have not signed up for the dinners. I myself did not because I hate lettuce green salads, al dente tasteless vegetables, and dry and tasteless meats. Two years ago the only thing I ate at one dinner was the charming and tasty desert. Last year at Orlando I did not even go down from my room to one of the dinners I had paid for. I appreciate and value the getting together with the guys, but not enough to get by the food! H.S./Kansas

>> Thanks for such a nurturing and sensual weekend in San Diego and for the kind of men CR attracts and cultivates. What coexistence and love! P& J/Laguna Beach

>> Even with the restriction of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, the gathering was spectacular. As I've told you before, you guys mean a lot to me. First of all, you were my first contact with the world of mature gay men outside of my own city. Then, after I told you of my incapacitating shyness during the 1995 gathering in Orlando, you took a special interest in me and gave me advice which helped me to come out of my shell for the 1996 gathering in San Diego. Then after my picture appeared in your magazine, I started corresponding with Fred, my Aussie Frog. As you know, I met him in person this year in February during the CR Mardi Gras gathering in Sydney. I am planning to return to Sydney for two or three months this summer to see what he and I can do about being together. It will be difficult, as such things always are, but we are investigating many avenues to change a long distance relationship to a long-term one. As you can see, you have done much to change my life, and I sincerely thank you. I hope that if Fred and I are both in the U.S. next year, we will attend the 1999 gathering and let you know personally how much we appreciate all that you do. Many hugs and best wishes. PAPERMATE/ San Antonio

>> Thanks for putting together such a wonderful gathering this year in San Diego. It was our first and hopefully we will be attending them for many years to come. We learned things about each other and about gay life in general that have brought us closer together as a couple and have also sort of "broadened our horizons" so to speak regarding other gay men. I'm 34 and my partner is 74, so it was nice to see that we aren't the only "dad/son" type couple out there. Also, my partner was amazed at the enormous number of men both young and old who found him attractive. It was a real boost to his morale. (I just wish that more of those daddies would have found ME attractive :-)) Anyway, again thanks for having the gathering, and thanks for giving us a place to spend vacation time with others like us where we can feel comfortable. Best of life. David & Frank (via e-mail)

>> Just a note of thanks for the gathering. It was my first of many to come. I've seen all the bull shit on the SF List before and after the gathering, and I found none of it to be true. I had a great time, and I would like to especially thank the man responsible for my upgrade to an "A" package. Joe/Arizona

>> It was nice to have met you in San Diego. The two of you are doing a great job to bring people together. God bless you for that. I always like to see people happy, and I like to share their happiness. The most wonderful thing in life is to see a man smiling. I loved every event at the gathering, especially the dancing. I would like to suggest that you have D.J. Dancing every single night. It will be great for the next gathering, because I saw a lot of people enjoying so much the music in the California Room, where the Slut Patrol controlled the volume well. I also noticed that many people left the Atlas ballroom during the main events because of the high volume. All my best wishes to you and your staff.

CARLOS/Mexico City

There will be D.J. Dancing by Tomcat and the Slut Patrol every night of the Orlando Gathering. Editor

>> I want to thank you for "bumping me up" to "A" package status. I get a sense that this was somehow beyond your control. It doesn't matter. It is one of the many things that make the gatherings a constant pleasure. I am forever in your debt, and money is not the debt. CHANUCK/Canada

To offset an apparent boycott of our "A" package, eighty "B" package registrations were upgraded to "A", thanks to a generous donation from a supporter who wishes to remain anonymous. Editor

>> What a divine gathering! I think I fell in love about three times! I know you don't want to hear this, but there was a tide of flaming on the internet afterwards. One twit complained about the $5 beers and $12 hamburgers served poolside with overcast skies. Actually I thought the hamburgers were exceptionally good at $3.50, and I'm almost positive that the registration didn't include a weather guarantee. You should know that your new writer, [name withheld], complained that the badges didn't indicate if someone was single or partnered. He went on to complain that CR had not made any provision for "drifters" like him and his party of three, all of whom crashed the party. They were miffed that they didn't feel particularly welcome because they had no wrist bands. I was no doubt one of the ones he's miffed at. When his group tried to infiltrate mine, I bluntly suggested that he and his pals pick up wrist bands in the Tiki Hut. I had to pay; why not these imperious bitches? Rob/San Diego

Imagine how miffed he was when I billed him for $300! Editor

DINNER NEVER SOUNDED SO EXCITING

>> I've been a reader of CR for several years now. I regularly buy copies at Brushstrokes here in Atlanta, and it's long overdue that I send you a note to let you know how much I appreciate your magazine. For me, it's without question the hottest mag going. I don't know how you manage to find so many hot looking men. The consistently high quality of the magazine is also very impressive. I've been in a relationship with a really terrific guy for over 14 years. The reason I mention him is because you guys would probably appreciate him as much as I do. He's 58, 5'-9", and weighs 230 pounds. He has one of the hairiest bods you'll ever see and an uncut piece of meat that will make your knees melt! You've probably heard this tale a million times before, but before I ran across your magazine, I thought I was the only person on the face of this earth who found such men attractive. Obviously I was dead wrong, and I couldn't be more pleased. Anyway, thanks for all your fine work. I'm sure you have had to put up with a lot of bullshit through the years, but you've obviously weathered your storms quite well. You have a first rate publication and a huge following of very loyal and grateful fans. If you're ever in Atlanta, please give us a call. We'd love to have you over for dinner. No-Knees (via e-mail)

CR'S AUSSIE RECEPTION

>> I am disappointed in the lack of response you received from Australia as regards MAGS and PRIME TIMERS' VINTAGE MEN. I know nothing of VINTAGE MEN in Melbourne, so perhaps I should not comment, but in my experience, MAGS is a useful organisation as far as it goes. It is not, however, a stimulating or stimulated group, certainly not for me. I realise that it does provide social connection for up to 170 men on a fortnightly basis, but it has none of the getup and go or stimulant that challenges or excites me, I'm afraid. It is inexcusable that you encountered anything other than courtesy and cooperation from any groups here, though I am not surprised. Older men here do not seem to be catered for, or participate in any other than long-time friendships with interests in theatre and home entertainment. I personally find my own age group here rather invisible, all with the attitudes of 1940s and 1950s. (Initials Withheld/Australia)

>> I just read my first issue of CR and understand that you're disappointed that neither Vintage Men nor MAG were interested in your visit to Sydney. I too sat in the stands, so I trust you saw the same thing as I. Those groups strutting their stuff got ovations, but neither VM nor MAG got any response to speak of. Some argue that Australians have no respect for their elder gays and lesbians, but I disagree. Both organizations were represented by a paltry few members, all of whom sat inside hearse-like mini-busses, staring out with prune-face expressions. Do you really want this sour contingent to join your high-flying group? I think not. Senior gays and lesbians in Australia are about where the U.S. was back in pre-CR days. You'd no doubt be foolish to try another Aussie gathering, but I would really like to see you back in a few more years. You might be pleasantly surprised. A YANK IN CANBERRA

APOLLONETWORK'S LIBRARY

>> Your story, REDEMPTION OF THE SATYR, on Apollonetwork, has touched me deeply. I'm glad Barney finally found his love in [it's a surprise ending!]. I have found my love six months ago, after a long, unhappy search. He lives on the other side of the earth from me. It has been a rough ride, but I am going to be with him soon in June. After reading your story, I feel even stronger that I have to cherish what I found with my life. Thank you so much. JON (via e-mail)

>> I don't know why, but I felt compelled to write to you. You probably get dozens of letters every day. I have just finished reading your REDEMPTION OF THE SATYR. I have also read ZONES, and I enjoyed both immensely. They are both very touching stories. About mid-way through the stories, I'm bawling my eyes out. I finish reading the newest chapters that are on the Apollonetwork, and I go somewhere else to look at something. I come back 15 minutes later and find that I am kind of angry that something new hasn't been added. That to me says it all. Much appreciation. JOE (via e-mail)

NOTHING BUT WASTED TIME

>> I wish to discontinue my subscription to CR. I finally came to my own revelation that gay life is intrinsically wrong, and I have spent almost 60 years accepting the fact and belief, not to mention how most disappointing it has been. Just one example I even hate to admit. I responded to over 60 ads in the past year without meeting one single guy. NOTHING but wasted time—time I could have given to God for the only real reward of life. I sincerely hope and pray you and all gay people everywhere will come to this same revelation. Life is so short! As a great philosopher once said, "What fools these mortal be." With love and prayers, G.K./Nevada

RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES FOR OLDER MEN

>> I am aware of many attempts to create gay retirement communities, but I never hear of any real successes. Have you or your stockholders considered something along these lines? CR is big and influential. Perhaps you should consider playing a part. J.B./Atlanta

CR is growing steadily, but it is quite obvious that we will never amass a surplus of funds with which to invest in anything, let alone something as big as retirement projects. The only way we would even consider such an investment is if we were the beneficiary of some wealthy reader's estate—a scenario as far-fetched as winning the Power Ball Lottery. Editor.

A KID IN A CANDY STORE

>> Enclosed you will find my subscription order. I grew tired of anticipating each new issue of CR only to arrive at the magazine rack and discover it's been sold out. However, as frustrated as I get, I'm glad to see there is a network of men out there my age (thirtysomething) that is attracted to older men, or in my case, addicted to older men. I feel like a kid in a candy store every time I pick up an issue. What a great magazine you have! I look forward to attending my first gathering next year. Keep up the incredibly good work. J.C./MARYLAND

THE WONDERFUL MEN OF SILVER SIMBA

>> I want to thank you for having various members contact me regarding the loss of my life partner of 29 years in January. It has been comforting to me to be able to discuss my situation and loss with those people who understand. Some days are fairly good for me, and yet there are days where the tears still flow. They say that time heals all wounds, and I am trying to believe it. E.H./Los Angeles

BRIDGING THE GENERATION GAP

>> Hey, you two old farts! I just got my first edition of your magazine. I think y'all do a fine job of bridging the generation gap between young and old. I looked over the latest issue with my lover, Robert, who happens to be 56 years young, and I do mean young. Robert is more active than anyone I've ever seen. I'm 36 and can't keep up with him. So when they say you're looking older, just say you're feeling younger. POOCHY (via e-mail)

TIME FOR SOME NEW FRIENDS?

>> Just a note to thank you for using my photo on the back cover of issue #84. Some of my "friends" told me you would NEVER use it because:

1) it was not explicit enough, and
2) you had to know someone at the magazine to get a photo in it.

I'm looking forward to some responses and will keep you up to date on my good fortune. Thanks. FLORIDA TIM

TIM's photo came very close to being on the front cover. He's receiving quite a bit of mail. Readers: never allow your "friends" to dissuade you from following your heart. Editor

COMING BACK HOME

>> Glad to see that you're still around and getting better. It's been a few years since I've seen your magazine, but happily to my surprise I found your latest issue on the shelf at Catalog X in Ft. Lauderdale. It's better than ever. I was first turned on to your magazine by the issue of the RUSSIAN BEAR (Dec. 90) on the inside front cover. Because of CR, I met my first true love, Tom Dolson. We had 4-1/2 wonderful years together before his untimely death in 1995. He opened my eyes to a world I thought I'd never see. He helped make me the success I am today, and I'm eternally grateful. By the grace of God I have met another wonderful man named Ed. I didn't think it could happen, but my life has gotten better since we got together. We have two years under our belts and going strong. I think your magazine does a wonderful service for the many people who love mature men. M.R./Florida

MISSING PUG

>> Thank you very much for the spread you gave Pug Snider. I met him in 1989 but had been writing before we met. I took him along on a trip to Louisville, Kentucky, where I was showing pigeons at the national Young Bird Show. Since he didn't drive, I took him along so he could get with friends while I was showing, then we'd stay together in the evenings. A sweeter guy there just couldn't be. His partner was just as nice and Pug was devastated when he died. I guess I was a person he could unload with and then there were times he sure was unhappy with his situation in California. He felt he needed to help his daughter with rent and expenses, as she was not working steadily. He felt he had to live with her and help her out. I can't help but wonder if she ever truly appreciated what a special, loving and devoted father she had. I'm also enclosing a letter for T.E. Rural Minnesota from the FORUM in #84. I hope to tell him about all he's missed by his misinformation on CR's demise. BOB K./Minnesota

(continued on next page)

(FORUM - CONT.)

MOTHER'S DAY

>> Some were concerned that the latest gathering fell on Mother's Day. I suppose we will hear the same for labor Day or whatever. I would think that surely these get-togethers are so VERY special that they would come first. Here is, in many cases, the ONLY chance all year to be ourselves. Here is NO hate—only love and caring. Next, someone will want to bring Mama along. So someone carried us ... but ... I am positive that at the moment of conception, there was no thought of, "Let me see, how about a pianist, boy, blue eyes." I see grandchildren and I wonder if they should be put back in there—they look undone. I want to ask if some of them bark or need a license. Mothers are nice, but surely CR is so very special. Give Mom a cactus plant every week for a year, but by all means, don't forget that other family: CR. CHUCKEE/San Francisco

WHAT IT IS

Chiron Rising Magazine is published every other month on even months by two old farts who don't know any better. We don't have a staff, but we have occasional volunteers who help us mail out issues and do clerical work. Except for time spent eating, sleeping, watching a little television, taking care of our two senior dogs and going to see a lot of doctors, we have no life of our own.

For that reason, we respectfully ask our readers to be tolerant of the inevitable delays, screwups and miscommunications. In order to put out a good product under these conditions, we have no choice but to operate by triage.

New to CR? Here are answers to some oft-asked questions:

Chiron Rising was named after a comet called Chiron. It's a long, boring story, so use your imagination.

CR models and writers want to hear from you. Follow the instructions in the fine print of THE CONTACT NETWORK.

The code on your address label indicates the date your subscription will run out. We will include a reminder note inside your final issue. A "V" means you're cool. A V2 or V3 entitles you to private favors and a lot of pampering—within the realm of mutual civility, of course.

If you would like to become a CR model, follow the instructions in WAS THAT YOU IN CR?

Expect your issue to arrive toward the middle to the end of each even month. The best way to find out if an issue has been distributed is to call our toll-free number after the first of the even month. A message will tell you how far behind we are.

bits and pieces

TALENT WANTED FOR GATHERING 99

Are you a musician? An artist (canvas, clay, gourds, whatever)? A comedian? A public speaker? We have a completely open slate for talent to perform at our Gathering '99 in Orlando during Memorial Day Weekend in 1999. Four venues: a recital series, an art exhibit, workshops, and an exciting nightclub featuring the Slut Patrol.

LOST KEYS IN SAN DIEGO

We still haven't found the owner of a set of keys left in the Tiki Hut during the gathering. The set includes six keys with a bottle opener and a grocery club card. Describe the bottle opener and identify the grocery store, and we will send you the keys.

ARTIST WEBSITES

We are associated with some great artists. Some allow us to feature their works; others are into media not appropriate for CR. Any way you look at it, though, they're still part of our family and should be supported. They are:

DRAC
http://www.geocities.com/Baja/4467/index.html
http://www.geocities.com/Baja/4467/detour.html
http://members.xoom.com/drac5/martin.html

OSAMU
http://members.aol.com/sosamu

IAMNARTIST
http://www.L-pe.com/~dalisgod/

WRITER WEBSITES

We are likewise associated with some pretty neat writers as well. Dr. Thomas F. Ris, author of The Palm Springs Lifestyle Cookbook, has created a very classy website at:
http://www.desert-winds.com/thomris

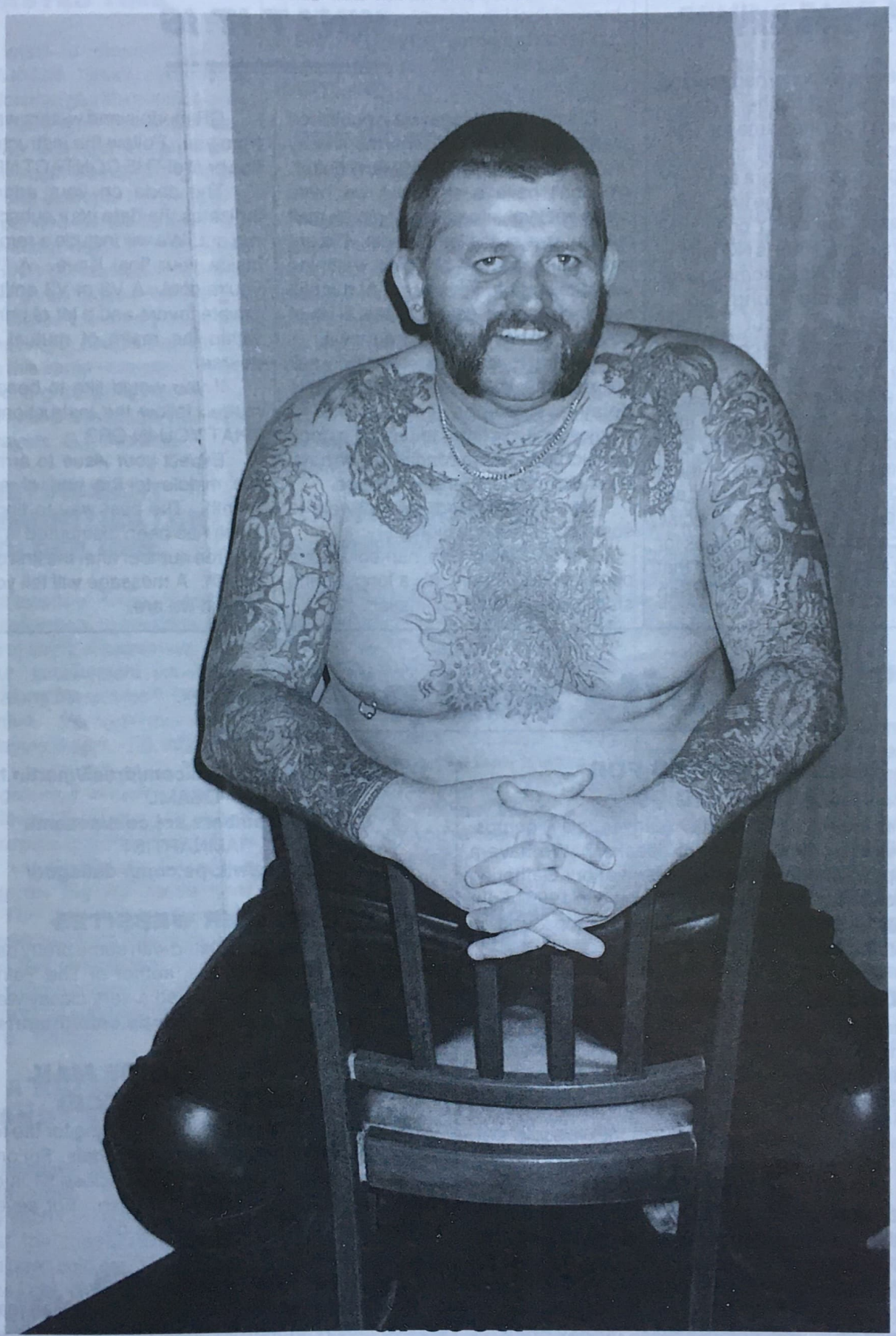
FORWARDING OF MAIL (SECOND NOTICE)

Please note that we are now charging for the forwarding of mail to those with coded ads and models. For one to three letters to forward at any one time, enclose $1 in cash. For four to six letters, enclose $2 in cash. For seven to nine letters, enclose $3 in cash, and so on.

FIT FAT MEN

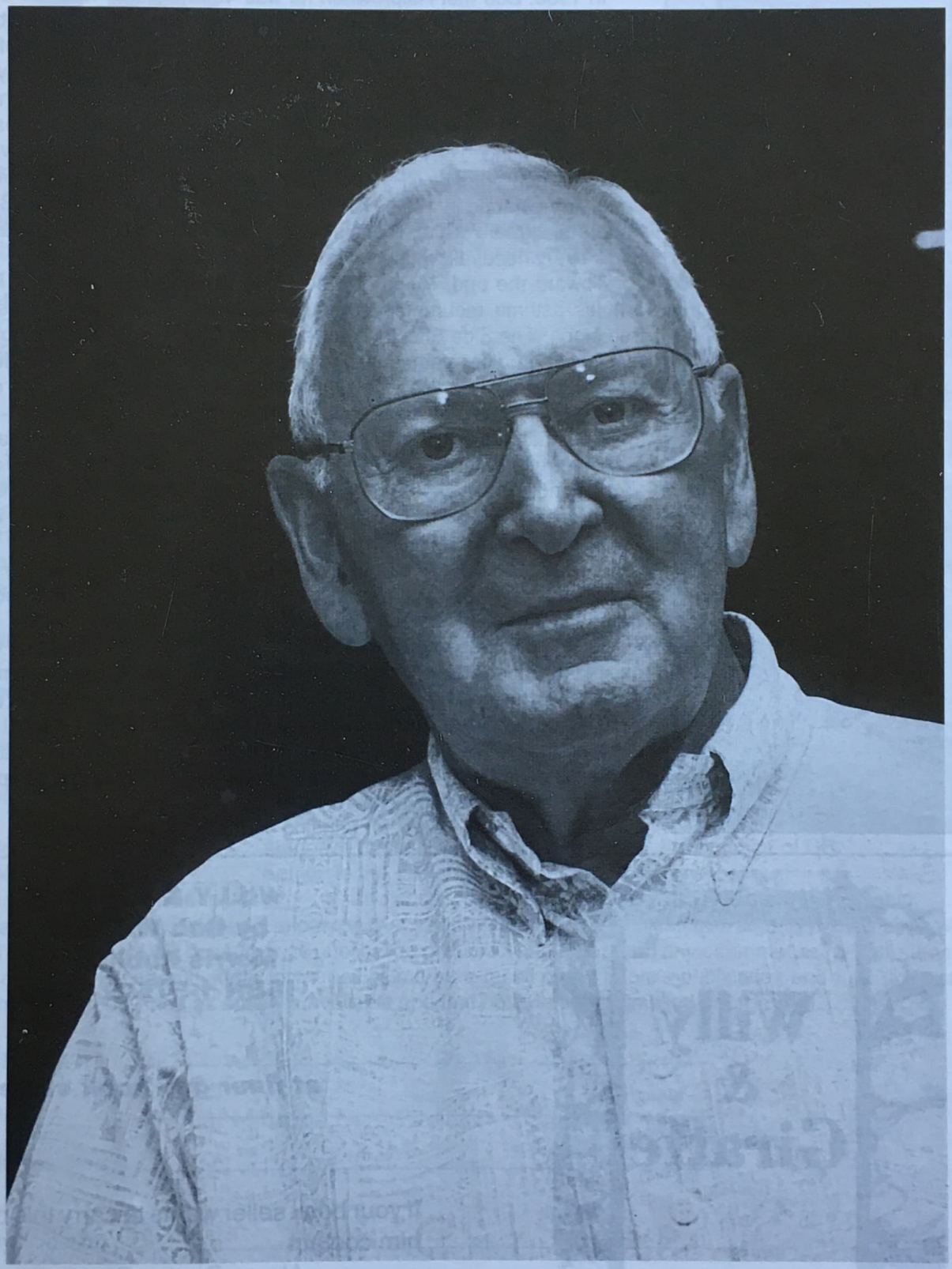
It appears that the World's Fittest Fat Man featured in a previous issue of Men's Health chooses not to indulge us with an interview. If the status of our request changes, we will do the article promised in CR #84.

U.K. ANDY



a. scott

HENRY



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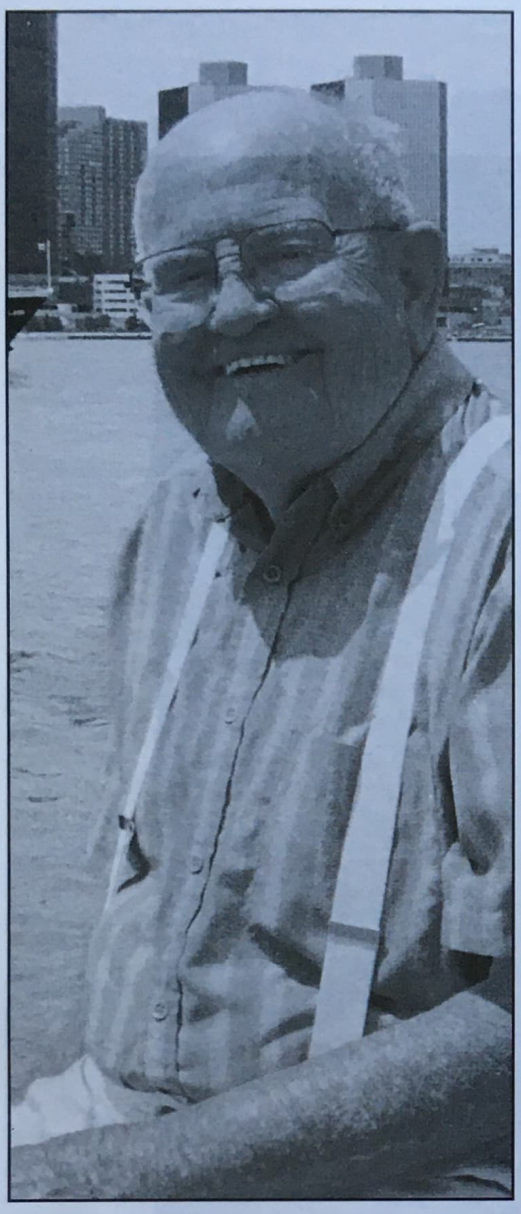


RALPH KELLEY

In 1986, Bob met Ralph when he was 42 and Ralph was 65. Ralph was a retired professor of American literature with very serious health problems. As a matter of fact, he was quite often on the verge of death and was dumbfounded that this handsome young man wanted to take care of him. There is only one way to describe what happened over the next few months: Bob loved Ralph back to life.

Over the next few years, Ralph thrived and jumped back into his passions: art, music and writing. They traveled a lot, and Ralph spent a lot of time writing fiction, much of it published by CR. They attended just about all the gatherings, the last one being Orlando in 1997. Ralph was in a wheelchair then, but Bob had little trouble taking care of him. Ralph's adoring fans were there en masse and took care of his every need, allowing Bob to visit with others .

Toward the end, Ralph had been diagnosed and treated for Parkinson's, arthritis, asthma, recurring pneumonia, heart failure, and hearing loss. In Ralph's true story, "The Side Effects Can Be Spectacular," he tells of the horror of over-medication in older people and how drug interactions and side effects can kill quicker than the diseases they were designed to treat. At the end of the story, Ralph's life is saved by an ER doctor who administers antidotes.

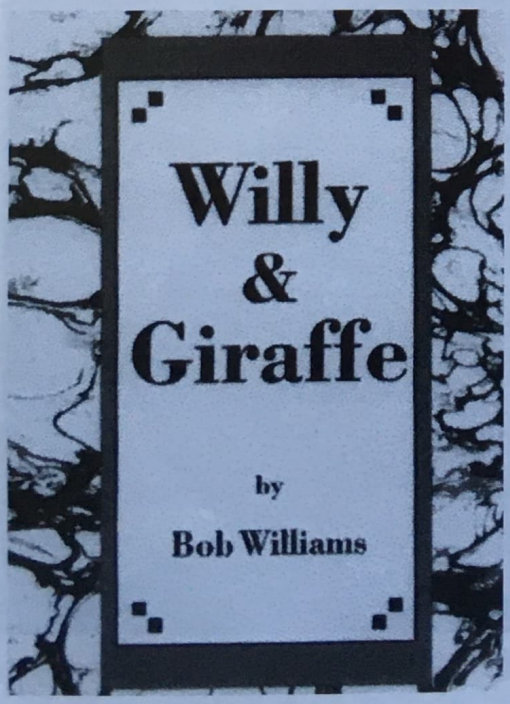
Bob and Ralph registered for the San Diego gathering, but it became obvious that Ralph couldn't make the trip. He had gotten much worse and had deteriorated to the condition he was in when they met. A short period before the gathering, Ralph began to do better and, together with their friends, talked Bob into going to San Diego by himself. Reluctantly, Bob agreed.

On May 17th, Ralph was exceptionally romantic and playful. He was so very happy that Bob was back and in his arms. And then he suddenly drifted away. Bob called the paramedics, but it was too late.

Once I used the expression "awesome" to describe my reaction via e-mail to one of the stories Ralph had submitted for publication. Bob showed my message to the little guy, and he promptly and gleefully sat down to write yet another.

The following was Bob's description of the next morning: "When I woke Ralph this morning, he giggled and warned that he was 'awesome.' We started the day with a laugh and a smile and good feelings instead of his usual complaints about his legs and feet hurting. Thank you for that."

And thank you, Ralph, for bringing so much joy into our lives.



WILLY & GIRAFFE
by Bob Williams
Morris Publishing
ISBN 1-57502-376-8

at finer gay book stores

If your book seller wants to carry this book, have him contact

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San Francisco, CA 94114
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alamosqdist@earthlink.net

HEY, WAS THAT YOU IN CR?

At CR we don't believe in the words "ugly" or "unattractive." We insist that no one is too fat or too skinny. Too tall? Bull shit! Too short? Our most popular models are short and chubby. And don't EVER say you're too old. Not for THIS magazine!

If you are 18 or over and want to become a CR model, send a sharply focused, well-contrasted, HIGH QUALITY 35 mm color or black and white photo of yourself. Do not send marginal snapshots; Polaroids; sex shots with obvious or simulated penetration or masturbation; photos with half your head or penis missing; portraits of yourself standing too far away; or prints with spots, lines, or ink marks that shouldn't be there.

Photos are not returned unless we are requested to do otherwise. If you want your photograph returned, SEND FOR IT AFTER IT IS PUBLISHED AND PROVIDE AN SASE.

The following form is required in order to have your photograph(s) featured in CR. Carefully write your name on the back of each submitted photograph and blot so that ink does not get on front of photo.

TO: CHIRON RISING PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 2589
VICTORVILLE, CA 92393

FROM: _____

This is to certify that I am the owner of the publication rights to and the model featured in the photography enclosed herein. I assign one-time rights of publication to Chiron Rising Publications, Inc. I further certify that I am at least 18 years of age, having been born on _____, 19 ____. it is understood that all publication rights revert back to me upon publication and that my photography may have to be cropped to suit the needs of the publisher.

I hereby waive any compensation in return for the publication rights to subject photography.

I request that the name of _____ be published as the name of the model, in lieu of my real name. The photographer's name should be designated as _____.

The following information should be used in any biographical sketch accompanying my photography:

Age: _____: Height: _____; Weight _____; Area of Residence: _____.

Likes: _____.

Looking for: _____.

I do _____ do not _____ authorize the use of my photograph on the front cover of CR.
I do _____ do not _____ authorize the use of my photograph on CR's website.
I am currently involved in no _____/ and open _____/ a closed _____ personal relationship.

I certify that I have not signed a release with any other magazine for publication of subject photography within the past year. I further certify that I will not authorize publication of subject photography in any other magazine until same is published in CR. I promise to answer all letters forwarded to me as a result of my photo's publication and fully understand that my photography will be published as space is available and that no timetable is implied or promised.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

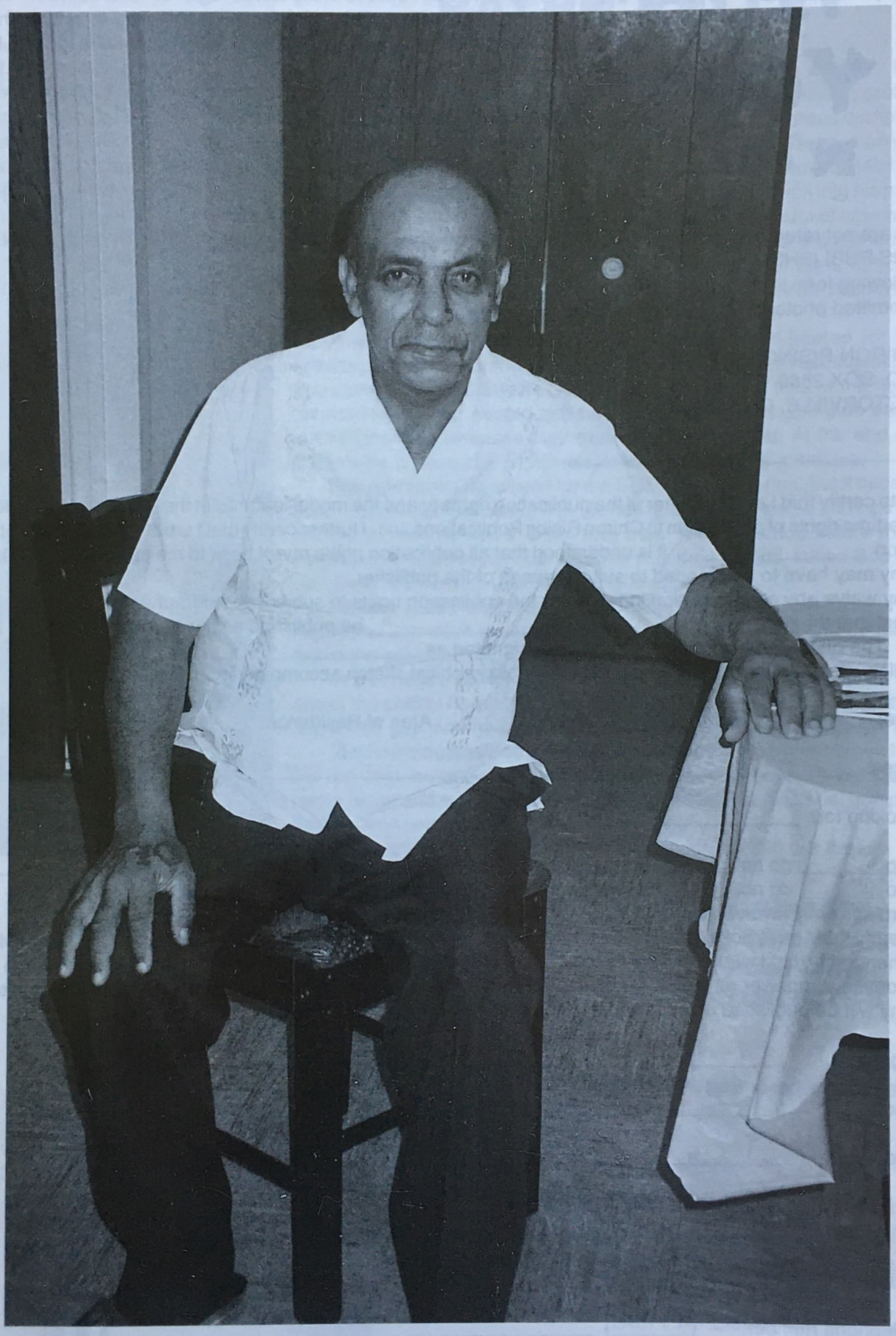
City/State/Zip _____

Date: _____

Telephone number: (_____) _____

NOTE: SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHY AND THIS RELEASE FORM, PROPERLY COMPLETED AND SIGNED TO CRPI.

RICAN



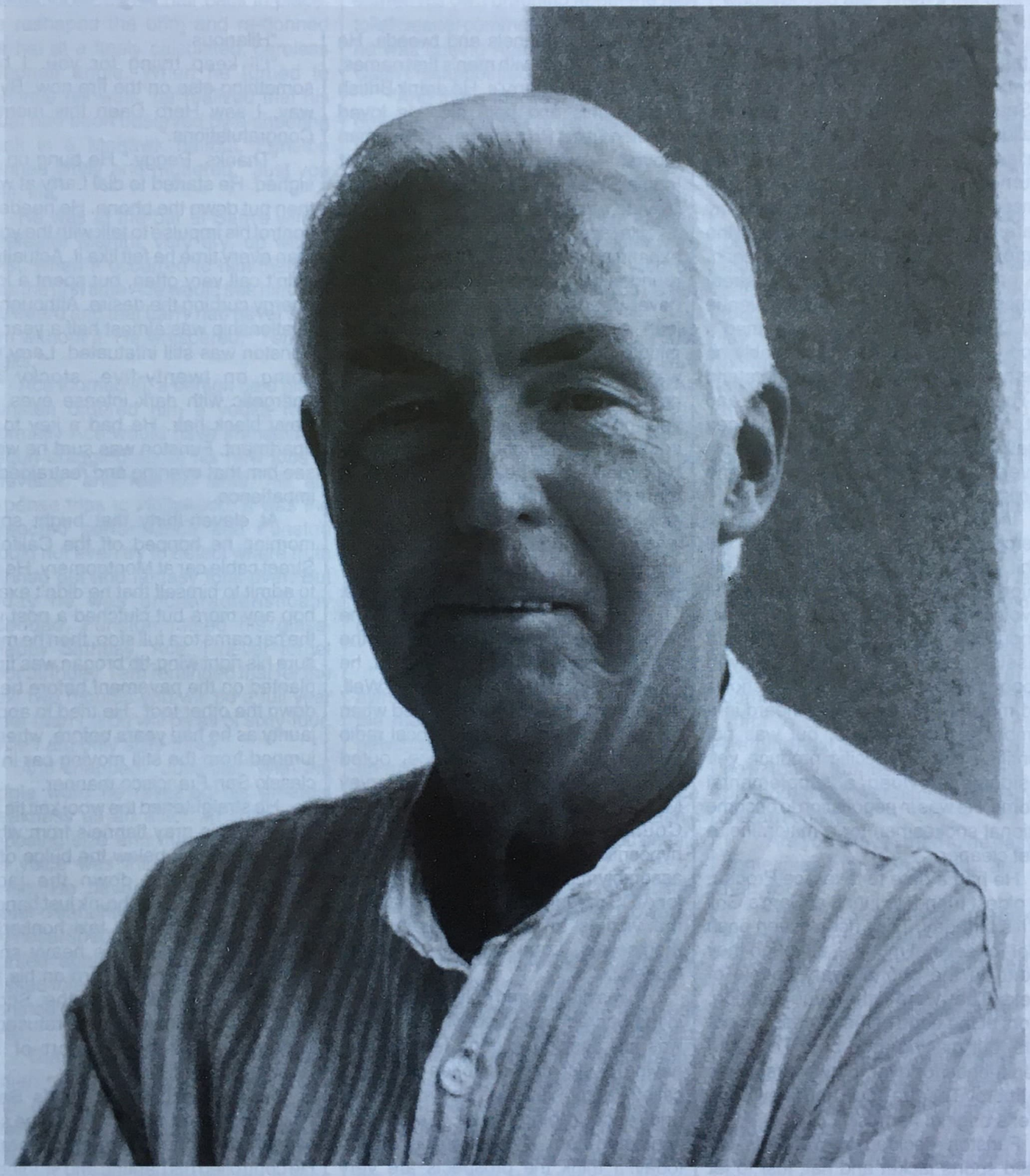
ronnie

DADDY'S BOY

ARIZONA FISHERMAN

joel

SEBASTIAN



THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS

by Giraffe

While Funston Duboce slowly woke up that Thursday morning for a moment or two he was still Harold Johnson back in Seattle. As daylight crept under his eyelids, he slid into character, assumed the invented identity like a costume and returned to San Francisco. He had concocted the pretentious name many years before when he worked with the Improvisation Theatre in North Beach. He had selected two 'unlucky' street names: Funston was really 13th Avenue and Duboce, 13th Street. It seemed a good joke at the time, but probably no one outside the City would understand it. The name stuck professionally and got on his Equity card. He had it changed legally. Funston Duboce was now on his driver's license, bank account, and Pacific Heights apartment lease.

In the shower he practiced vocal exercises to tune up his throat, an old habit. The resonant baritone was his major professional asset. He worked as a voice-over artist, actor and radio announcer. He was weekend DJ at a classical music station and played supporting bits in locally filmed TV shows and movies. His voice was heard in a number of commercials, but was not identified with a specific product, yet. Residuals provided a supplemental income. He was in negotiation to become national spokesman for a major line, a toilet cleaner.

He had a date to take Ace Proctor, his oldest friend, to lunch at Sam's Grill for his birthday. They hadn't seen each other for several months, although they talked on the phone every couple of weeks. They were in the same situation, actors at the edge of the profession, not stars, but making a go of it. They had been friends for over thirty years, since the Improv Theatre days, and knew each other's original names.

Funston decided to wear his old tweed sports jacket and hat, just to let Ace know that, even though he was being treated to lunch, he wasn't important enough to dress up for. Anyway, Funston liked English country style clothes, flannels and tweeds. He liked restaurants with men's first names, Jack's, Sam's, Harry's. He drank British gin Martinis and pale ale. He loved Dixieland jazz, Puccini operas, Bergman movies - either Bergman, Ingrid or Ingmar. He hated Mrs. Olson and the Maytag repairman.

He scowled into the mirror at his expanding waistline and slapped at his rounded belly a couple of times. He had never been a slender Adonis but was lean enough, until recently, when his middle began to thicken. Although he was in no real danger of becoming obese, he thought he might verge on portly in a year or two. He would have to decide soon whether to fight it or let it happen. He examined his beard, decided not to trim it today. He had grown the short, full silver brush in the last few months and was still a little uncertain about it, wondered if he should have settled for just a goatee to balance out his mustache.

While his coffeemaker dripped, he retrieved the morning *Chronicle* from the hall. Like any true San Franciscan, he turned first to Herb Caen's column. "Well, what do you know?" he mumbled when he saw his name in print: "Local radio personality, Funston Duboce, outed himself vociferously at the last Harvey Milk Club meeting by calling the Orange County lower house member a hypocritical, fag-baiting bigot when the assemblyman advocated cutting funds for AIDS research because, he claimed, the victims brought the disease on themselves. Long live our ex-Closet Queens..."

It was his first and only mention ever in the Sacred Testament of the City. He was still basking in good feelings and having a last cup of coffee when he called Peggy, his agent. She was patient and encouraging. "Yes, Funston, I contacted them. They will get back to me today. I think the prospects are very good. They like you. They want to do at least three more ads, with animation to make it look like the toilet is talking in your voice. Sounds pretty funny."

"Hilarious."

"I'll keep trying for you. I have something else on the fire now. By the way, I saw Herb Caen this morning. Congratulations."

"Thanks, Peggy." He hung up and sighed. He started to dial Larry at work, then put down the phone. He needed to control his impulse to talk with the young man every time he felt like it. Actually he didn't call very often, but spent a lot of energy curbing the desire. Although the relationship was almost half a year old, Funston was still infatuated. Larry was going on twenty-five, stocky and energetic with dark intense eyes and wavy black hair. He had a key to the apartment. Funston was sure he would see him that evening and restrained his impatience.

At eleven-thirty that bright spring morning he hopped off the California Street cable car at Montgomery. He had to admit to himself that he didn't exactly hop any more but clutched a post until the car came to a full stop, then he made sure his right wing-tip brogan was firmly planted on the pavement before he set down the other foot . He tried to appear jaunty as he had years before, when he jumped from the still moving car in the classic San Francisco manner.

He straightened the wool knit tie and pulled up his gray flannels from where they had settled below the bulge of his belly. He tugged down the jacket muttering that it had shrunk just hanging in the closet. When a taxi honked he limped to the curb. The heavy shoes were creating another corn on his little toe, but he considered the Scotch wing-tips a signature and refused to condescend to the comfort of soft tasseled loafers.

He started briskly towards Sam's Grill, but paused in front of the pipe shop when he became a little short of breath. He controlled his panting and studied his reflection in the shop window. He saw to his dismay that the Irish tweed hat had been knocked askew and one side of the brim was folded up like an Aussie herder.

The lock of gray-brown hair that he usually combed from above his left ear across the thinning top now hung down beside his beard. He sighed, took off the hat and combed his hair back in place. He reshaped the brim and re-donned the hat at a finely calculated, careless debonair angle. When he turned to continue his walk, he realized that his ritual had been observed by a sneering punk in a Mohawk haircut. Funston grinned wryly and muttered, "Just you wait, kid."

He was at the bar at Sam's with a Beefeater Martini, very dry, up with a twist, when it occurred to him that this was the first time Ace would see him with the beard and that Larry had never seen him without it. He whispered, *"Tempus fugits."*

Ace loomed in, a benign bald giant. Funston ordered him a vodka tonic. Normally Ace would have immediately begun bragging about his new jobs in television and feature films, his all-expense trips to Hollywood. It was the expected performance and Funston would not even try to detect where truth thinned out and fantasy took over. But today he was uncharacteristically subdued. Funston raised his glass. "Happy Birthday, Ace. I never forget your birthday. I am reminded that for the next two months you will be a full year older than I. You will be all of sixty-four, while I am only sixty-three."

Ace snapped, "Juvenile!" With the single word he revealed his greatest weakness as an actor. In spite of his imposing size and macho good looks, his voice was thin, high pitched and tense. He never achieved Funston's orotund sonority. Funston was sure that the nasal speech with its Midwest twang worked against success for Ace. He missed roles he was physically ideal for. Funston no longer tried to discuss it with him.

"Thank you, sir. You know, you have gotten better looking as you got older. That eye job did wonders, took twenty years off, and now the camera loves you. That last movie we were in together, most of my part landed on the cutting room floor because I looked like hell. They called you back for more scenes."

"Only two, and no lines." Ace remained both modest and smug.

He had pointedly not mentioned the beard, so Funston brought it up. "Don't you think the beard improves my image? At least it disguises the wattles." He started his own bragging about the new toilet cleaner commercials. He suspected he was cueing Ace for a putdown. He wasn't disappointed.

"And that's the way you want to go down in the history of television? The voice of the turd."

"It will pay the rent."

"Do you intend to live on residuals?"

"My friend, just last fall we re-elected to the White House a former actor who, before entering politics, depended on residuals for a very nice living, even though I didn't vote for him."

They were shown to a table and ordered the Dover sole. While they were waiting to be served, Ace excused himself to go to the men's room. When he came back he seemed preoccupied as he sat down. He asked, "Will you be home this evening? I have something I need to talk about."

"Larry may be over tonight. Why not talk now?"

Ace grunted, "I need to find out some things this afternoon. I'll phone before I drop in."

"Okay. You sound mysterious."

They concentrated on eating for awhile. Funston noted that all through the meal Ace avoided mention of the newspaper squib. This kind of tease was an old game with him. Finally after Funston asked for the check, Ace remarked, "By the way, I saw Herb Caen's column this morning. Maybe you should sue."

"I know. Where does he get that Queen stuff? The title is Dowager Princess Royal."

"Okay. Make jokes. But you have to be careful. You're a celebrity now."

When the waiter brought the credit card slip for him to sign, Funston said, "See how they flock for my autograph."

Funston took a taxi home. For no apparent reason, he felt very tired, not energetic enough for the cable car. In his apartment he stripped, stretched out in the unmade bed and dozed off. He was gently awakened by someone sliding in beside him. He reached out and touched Larry's fuzzy chest. Funston marveled that he could become so familiar with a body that just one touch was enough to identify it. He was still half asleep and his voice was at its seductive deepest when he rumbled, "Hello, young fellow, whoever you are. What's the time?"

Larry chuckled, "It's about three-thirty. I took off early so I could be with you." They turned to each other and embraced.

"You just take off? And no one raises hell?"

"They owe me the time. I came to disturb your siesta."

"It's a beautiful disturbance." He pressed against the firm young body and sighed. Larry began to stroke and caress him. They kissed, hugged and touched intimately. After a time, Funston lay on his back and braced the soles of his feet against Larry's broad chest while his lover rolled on the condom, arranged the pillows, soothed and relaxed him with lubricant, and entered in a single slow thrust. Funston savored their union, as if they now inhabited the same body. Afterwards, they dozed, still entangled in one another.

Larry woke up hungry. He half dressed while Funston put on a silk brocade dressing robe and phoned for a pizza, even though it was only early evening. While they sipped Chianti and waited for the delivery, Funston commented, "That was a wonderful surprise. But you had better give me fair warning next time. I'm not sure at my age how many surprises I can take." He pretended to lower himself gingerly into the armchair.

"Are you okay? I tried to be easy, but sometimes I forget how big I am. Did I hurt you?"

"I'm fine, just retaining some precious memories. Hurt me? I don't think so. Not one who has accommodated the prodigious Ace Proctor."

"Ace? Is he so spectacular?"

"Just ask him. They say of Ace that when he gets a hard on, it uses up so much blood he goes brain dead."

"I haven't even met him yet. Were you lovers?"

"We had a mad, passionate affair that lasted maybe an hour. Then one or the other of us started talking and neither has shut up since. We are too close and competitive to be lovers."

"Well, from now on I'll try to warn

you: 'Duck. Big surprise coming.' But sometimes things spring up in spite of plans."

Funston studied his wine glass, "You mean you have another surprise for me?"

"Well, sort of. I got an offer for a better job. Just what I want: more pay, management training, growing company. But there's just one hitch."

"What's the hitch?"

"It's down the peninsula. I'll need a car to commute."

Funston frowned, "Can you afford a car?"

"I will on my new salary. I just need a down payment." He was interrupted by the delivery of their supper. When they were at the table Larry started on a new tack, "I don't think I told you. My father called a couple of weeks ago from San Diego. He offered me everything if I go home: job, MBA, car, future secure. I told him no, I'll do it myself, and he called me a hog on ice."

"It sounds like he might be proud of you. That's a lot to turn down."

"I've got a good start. Now, all I need is the down payment and I'll be on my way." He reached for another slice of pizza.

Funston seemed to concentrate on managing the awkward food gracefully, "A car is pretty expensive to maintain in the city. Have you figured all that?"

Larry stopped eating, "I think so. The down payment is the only problem."

Funston wiped his fingers and lips on his napkin. "Are you trying to get me to lend you the money? Or give it to you?"

Larry muttered, "I hoped you would offer."

Funston got up from the table and stood looking out the window toward the bay, "You know I can't. I won't buy you. We talked about this before."

Larry spoke to his lover's back. "It's different now. You said so. You said I might even move in with you."

"I only suggested we might consider living together. I'm still not sure."

"I want to be with you every day."

"God damn it. What are you putting me through?" Funston paced the room. "You come into my life like an explosion. I was all safe and secure, but now I'm walking a tightrope again, and I know every misstep that can tear us apart. I won't make you dependent, but I need you in my life. I love you as you are."

"I'll never change for you."

Funston grasped Larry's shoulders and stared into his eyes. "Won't you understand? We will both have to change. Look at the years between us. Someday I won't be able to work any more, and I won't be rich. And you have to get on with your life, your degree and your career."

"I can go to school at night. All I need is a start."

"Is it so important that I start you?"

"I hoped you would want to."

"Is that how I could prove my love for you? With money?"

Larry turned away, "It sounds cheap when you put it that way."

Funston returned to the window, "It's the same way your father tried to prove his love."

"Dammit, I'm not a hustler. I'm not just after money. But you don't seem to be interested in my life, what I want to do."

Funston sat at the table and folded his hands. "Tell me something. You can say it's none of my business, but I would like to know. Does your father know that you're gay?"

Larry quieted down. "I don't think so. We never talked about it. Why shouldn't you know?"

"I should, I suppose. But maybe you don't want me to know."

"Where would my trust be then? Where is my honesty with you if I hold things back?"

"Where is it with your father? Or are you afraid to take the chance?" Funston realized that they were now both playing the scene for its own sake, but they were both half sincere.

Larry sprang up. "You sonofabitch. So I upset your life. So you take all the risks. Where's your trust in me? A few dollars for a few weeks. But I can't be dependent. You stupid shit, I can't get through a day without you. I could go home and get everything I want, but it would be worthless without you." Funston hid his face in his hands. "Are you trying to get rid of me? To make me go away for my own good? Or for your sake?"

Funston looked up, "I don't know for sure. I can't really help you, but I want you with me. Maybe I'm asking too much."

"You think I should come out to my father. And if he still makes the offer, his love for me is as good as yours?"

"I didn't mean it that way. You can't compare— "

"And if he rejects me?"

"I can't ask you to take that chance. Forget it."

Larry leaned down and kissed his cheek then hurried to the bedroom and threw on the rest of his clothes. "I won't forget it. I Have to go to my place to get my stuff for work tomorrow. And I'll call my Dad. I'll just tell him I'm gay. He doesn't need to know about you. Maybe he doesn't even need to know about me. But I need to know about me."

"You don't have to do it tonight."

"I have my key. I'll come back no matter what. I'll try not to wake you up when I come in." He was now ready to leave.

"I'll wake up for you. I won't mind." They kissed firmly on the mouth.

On his way out Larry threw over his shoulder, "I'll be back."

Funston crossed to the door to make sure it was locked. He thrust his fists into the deep pockets of the robe and rocked on his toes. "That sweet sonofabitch. He did a good job on that 'so I upset your life' speech. I wonder which car he has picked out. Why didn't I just tell him I'm broke?"

He anticipated the phone ringing half an hour later after he had cleared the table, but it wasn't Larry; it was Ace asking to come over. "I need to talk. I hope it's not too late for you."

"Never too late for you."

When he opened the door for Ace, Funston knew immediately that it was going to be difficult. Ace had abandoned his burly self-confident strut and tentatively sidled through the door. He perched on the edge of a side chair clutching his thick fingers. Usually, he would monopolize his host's recliner and pontificate. This time he mumbled a cliché, "I don't know where to begin."

Funston sat upright in the reclining chair. "Is something the matter?"

"Not exactly. Is Larry here?"

"Not now. He may be back later."

"Oh, well. This part shouldn't take too long. Have you heard from Peggy today?"

"Not since this morning. I told you about that —the voice of the turd."

"There may be another voice."

"Meaning?"

Ace shifted uneasily. "You remember that series of commercials I shot for that brokerage house?"

"Mammon and Cabbage? Oh, yes. They were never released."

"The agency put in a lot of work. I put in a lot of work. And then some new muckety-muck at the clients' began objecting. He didn't like my voice. He wanted another actor, but the star he named was too expensive. My looks are good enough, but he wants another voice. You can guess where this is leading."

"He wants me?"

"He doesn't know it's you yet. Peggy had the agency play some things you recorded and they liked it. You can lip-sync the lines. There will be six commercials released over the next two years. Peggy says she can get them to pay your full fees and residuals, as well as mine. Please do it. I am going to need all the money I can make."

Ace saying 'please' and admitting poverty were unusual enough for Funston to become more curious. "Bad investments?"

"No. There's something else."

The telephone rang and Funston got up. "That's Larry. I'll take it in the bedroom. Make yourself a drink. The bar is where it has always been." He heard Ace rummaging in the refrigerator while he picked up the bedside phone. "It's your nickel. Shoot."

Larry delivered his tumbling monologue without pausing for comment or the possibility of objections. "Hello, Funston. I'm at the airport. I have to go back home to San Diego. I talked to my boss and told him it was a family emergency. It's okay. I can get back to work Tuesday morning. Anyway, I called Dad and told him about me, that I was gay. What a disappointment. He said he suspected it and was waiting for me to tell him. Knocked the wind out of my sails. Then he had another shock for me. He is getting married again on Saturday and wants me to be there to greet my new - 'surprise' - step-mother. I met her before. She's okay. Not a dumb chick like the last one. Anyway, I am taking off tonight and will be back next week. Listen. I'll drive back. Dad is giving me a car as a reverse wedding present. He does things like that. If I start Sunday morning I can make the trip in two jumps, maybe stop at Santa Barbara overnight. Anyway, I had to let you know. I will be back next week and we won't have to worry about the car. Oh, there's my flight. Good-bye now. Love you."

Funston sat on the edge of the bed for a few minutes. "I wonder who he knows in Santa Barbara."

When he went back to the living room, Ace was enthroned in the recliner with a drink. He asked, "Is Larry coming back?"

"No. He had to go to San Diego. Family emergency."

"Serious?'

"Oh, no. He'll be back next week." He retrieved his wine glass from the dining table and sat in the side chair. "Okay. I'll do your lip-sync, if I don't have to wear drag. I'll call Peggy in the morning. What else do you have to tell me?"

Ace fidgeted, tensed again and apparently discarded several openings before he asked, "Do you know what an orchiectomy is?"

Funston knew, but tried to get a laugh out of Ace. "I can figure it out. 'Ectomy.' - that means surgery, cutting out something. The other part, 'orchi - Orca?' You mean they want to amputate your killer whale?"

"For God's sakes, don't make jokes. I have cancer." His voice sank to scarcely more than a whisper. "That's the first time I've said that out loud. I have prostate cancer."

"Oh, my God. Are you sure?"

"I've seen a bunch of doctors through my medical plan. They confirmed it this afternoon. The castration is just one possible treatment. They talked about radiation, too, and chemotherapy. I don't know what to do. I'm scared. I have no one to talk to."

"I've got big fat ears."

"I've known you longer than anybody. I hate to put the burden on you, but I need someone."

"Shit, man, what are buddies for?"

In bed alone that night, Funston repeated relaxation exercises trying to fall asleep. It had been a full day. He wanted to believe that Larry would come back, but didn't want to depend on it. He would survive. He foresaw the future with Ace, nurse and gofer. Ace would probably survive, too. Funston knew of men who had recovered after the drastic surgery. He knew that treatment was improving all the time. He would have to wait and see.

As he dozed off, Funston Duboce felt not exactly triumphant, but not defeated. The future was livable. While he sank into sleep his last conscious thought was telling himself, "I'm okay. The universe is fucked up." Then he was sound asleep.

Desert Men

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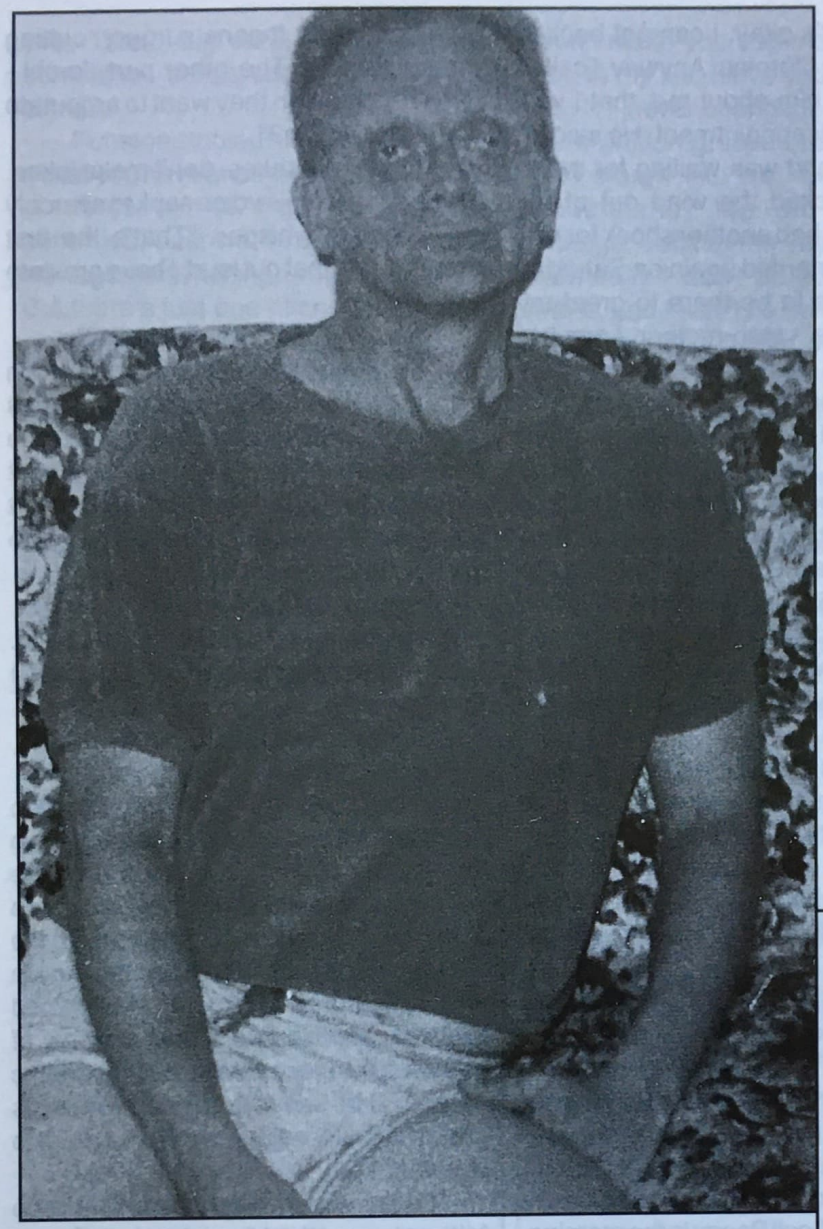
URGENT WARNING

Although Viagra is considered safe to use by the vast majority of men, Viagra's maker, Pfizer is now warning of three ways the drug can precipitate a severe drop in blood pressure and lead to shock and even death:

1. An angina patient could take nitroglycerin if he has chest pains during sex. The combination of Viagra and nitroglycerin could be deadly.

2. A man with no history of heart disease could have chest pains during sex and could forget to tell the paramedics that he has taken Viagra and should not have nitro.

3. A man who takes Viagra and then inhales amyl nitrate or "poppers" could go into shock and die.



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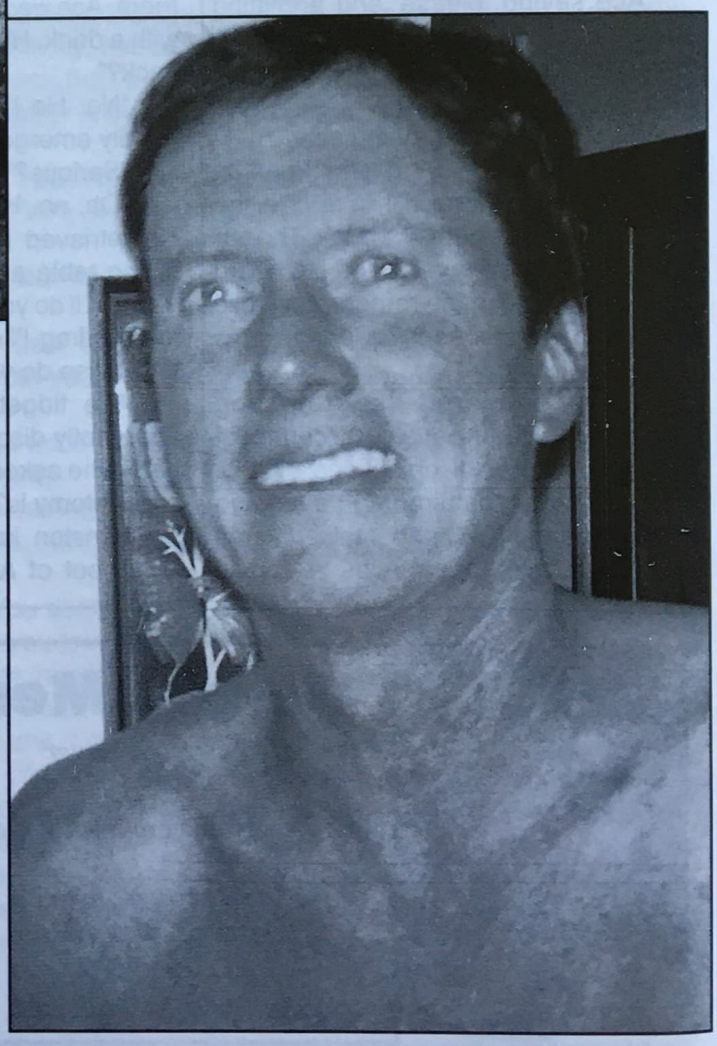

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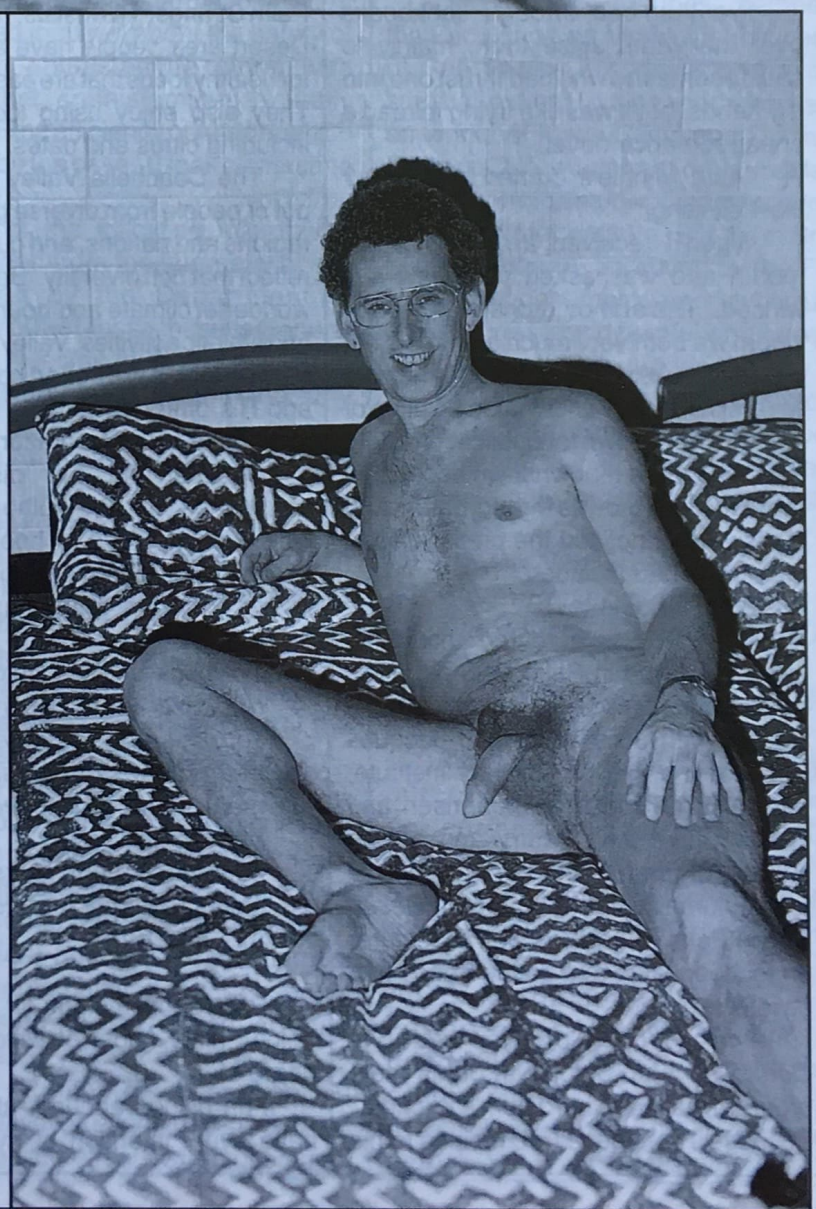

CHRIS OF THE NETHERLANDS

THE PALM SPRINGS LIFESTYLE COOKBOOK
By Thomas F. Ris, Ph.D.

Three-ring Plastic Binder
$13.95, 146 pages, indexed

The last cookbook that got my attention was a 5-pound, 511-page giant in 1980. It was *The Complete Asian Cookbook* by Charmaine Solomon, and I purchased it for just over $15. God knows what a book like that would cost today. I bought it because it excited me and lured me into trying something new and exotic. Besides, it looked great on a coffee table.

I've thumbed through cookbooks over the years since then, mainly to satisfy someone who had thrust one into my hands, but it was like trying to read a cheap romance novel.

"Aunt Minnie's curried meatballs? How exciting!"

When I received a cookbook last month and was asked to review it, I winced. The author, a charming senior whom we both very much admire, is the last person we would want to offend. But we are in the very unenviable position of having to turn down for publication about ten times more that what we accept, so I set it aside to browse through later. And that's when I noticed the press release the author had included.

What a hook!

Thom Ris is a retired marketing executive living in Palm Springs. He's had a life-long passion for cooking and studied with Julia Child and Jacques Pepin at the French Culinary Institute. He's also a graduate of Johnson and Wales University's pastry and baking culinary program. He's currently a local food columnist and writer for the *Desert Sun* in Palm Springs as well as lecturer on food, cooking and eating trends and styles.

The Palm Springs Lifestyle Cookbook is an outgrowth of his radio program, called "Chef Thom's Kitchen." Because Thom gave free recipes to his listeners, the demand for complete sets of his recipes made the book necessary.

There is a misconception that folks in the Coachella Valley (Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, LaQuinta, etc.), especially the well-heeled ones, are partial to fancy foods. It's easy to think so after visiting some of the upscale markets and specialty shops around Palm Springs. Ris insists, however, that Desert area people have a preference for healthy foods that are easy to prepare. They also enjoy using local produce, including citrus and dates.

The Coachella Valley is a melting pot of people from diverse geographical regions and nations, and culinary tastes reflect that rich diversity. Because of the wonderful climate and boundless social and athletic activities, Valley cooks prefer serving meals with short cooking times, and Ris offers 70 recipes that take 15 minutes or less preparation time.

Unusual and "fun" dishes are in abundance, but the author avoids the elitism often found in books featuring exotic foods. Ingredients for the recipes in his book are readily available just about anywhere.

The book is divided into 8 sections:

appetizers and beverages
soups, salads and vegetables
main dishes and casseroles
meat, poultry and seafood
breads and rolls
pies, pastry and desserts
cakes, cookies and candy
this and that

Each section starts off with a list of helpful hints, most of which I'd never heard of.

Fun dishes abound, all of which I have every intention of trying in turn. The most enticing for me: fried brie, baked onions, breakfast gazpacho, Kahlua baked beans, peanut butter and jelly soup, tomato soup cake, fried apples & sausage, and corn & shrimp La Quinta.

But that's not all: in the back of the book are

cooking tips,
a calorie counter,
measurements & substitutions,
microwave hints,
a glossary of herbs & spices,
napkin folding instructions,
vegetable time tables,
a buying guide for fresh vegetables and fruits,
special instructions for baking perfect breads and desserts,
food quantities for serving 25, 50, and 100 people,
an equivalency chart,
and a glossary of cooking terms.

If you like to cook and want to have fun while eating healthier, this book is for you. If you hate to cook but want to keep the one who cooks for you happy, buying this book might be a step in the right direction. If you want that perfect gift that people will actually use, then send a money order or check in the amount of $15.95 ($13.95 plus $2.00 for shipping and handling) for each copy to:

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FIGHTING PARKINSON'S

by ken gould

Having waited until my children were through college, I divorced my wife and looked forward to a happier second half of my life, especially since longevity appeared to run in my immediate family.

I had always enjoyed excellent health and physical condition, so it came as a shock, having just begun a meaningful relationship, to discover my previously athletic body becoming undependable. Since the initial tremors appeared in my leg rather than my hand, I scoffed at suggestions of Parkinson's which, with limited information, I had always associated with extreme senility. Believing that it might be caused by the effect of deteriorating inter-vertebral discs or scoliosis, I tried Chiropractic, which often relieved both my leg tremor and the concomitant back pain, but rarely lasted more than a few hours. Other treatments included cranio-sacral therapy, which also produced limited if temporary relief, as well as Reiki and acupuncture.

In the normal brain, dopamine, the primary chemical that transmits messages about movement, is in balance with another important chemical transmitter influencing movement. In Parkinson's, deteriorating nerve cells result in loss of dopamine in the area of the brain that controls movement (striatum/substantia nigra), causing imbalance of brain chemicals. [1]

Available treatments for Parkinson's do not delay progression of the disease, only help control its symptoms. The usual treatment is with drugs that raise blood levels of dopamine, but doctors try to delay prescribing them because, although often effective when they are started, the drugs lose their ability to control symptoms with continued use. [2}

Neurologists I consulted sent me for sacral and cerebral MRIs, which showed no physical cause. They then prescribed **Sinemet/Atamet** (levodopa/carbidopa 50/200), which provides relief in most cases of Parkinson's. In my case, however, two months produced no results whatsoever.

Currently two things provide some relief for me.

1. The drug **Artane** (trihexphenidyl HCL), which offers some control of the tremors regardless of their cause. Here I had to reduce the dosage as it affected my digestion, causing loss of weight. I later learned that 62% of PD patients experience eating difficulties of some kind; 52% experience weight loss and 22% lose an average of 15 pounds. [3}

2. Exercise; walking and running on a rubberized track with knees bent. This definitely relieves my back pain as well as tremors in my lower leg. To my surprise, even moderate weight lifting and exercise machines help, but care must be taken to distribute the pressure evenly to both sides of the body. Stretching the spine also relieves back pain, while the single factor most exacerbating my PD symptoms is emotional stress. A pleasant surprise was learning from a pharmacologist, of whom I had inquired about the safety of taking an antihistamine along with Artane, that antihistamines actually IMPROVE the efficiency of Artane, which I found to be the case. (I took clemastine fumerate).

Most of the following information was obtained from the internet website maintained by the Department of Neurology of the Massachusetts General Hospital. Needles to say, consult your own physician before making any changes.

Drugs newly approved by the FDA include:

Mirapex (pramipexole), which can be used in place of levadopa, and when used with levadopa can reduce need for that drug by 25%.

Soon to be approved is **Entacapane**, which when taken with levadopa can prolong its effect and help control the symptomatic shaking for a longer time.

Some warnings:

Sandoz Pharmaceuticals has issued a warning about reports of fatal interactions between **Eldepryl** (selegiline HCL by Somerset Labs) and Demerol (merperidine) and other trade names. Patients contemplating surgery should bring this to the attention of their physicians.

Note: A report has been received that the antibiotic Levaquin has produced dangerous side effects when used by a PD patient.

Some positive news:

Symmetrel (DuPont Merck), **Permax** (Eli Lilly) and **Parlodel** (Sandoz) stimulate release of dopamine.

Sibla Neurosciences reports positive results from their phase one trials of **SIB-150BY**, a drug which has been shown to regulate the release of dopamine. Phase two studies are scheduled to begin later this year.

Tasmar (tolcapone), newly approved by the FDA is shown to significantly improve function when taken in combination with L+C-dopa.

Electronic relief has been reported by Meditronics through electrodes implanted in the brain. Internet users report good results with both Tasmar and electronic implants.

Dr. Francisco Antunes, member of the Faculdade de Medecina (University of Saõ Paulo) has developed a non-surgical, external brain pacemaker based on works of Mayo Clinic and Dr. Irving Cooper. More information is available via e-mail from antunes@convex.com.br

Requip (ropinirole HCL from Smith Kline Beecham), approved by the FDA, showed modest improvement when used alone. It was found helpful when used in combination with levadopa therapy.

Clozapine may be the most effective drug to treat uncontrollable body movements, but it has thus far been approved only for Schizophrenia. [4}

Notes:

[1] Athena Neurosciences

[2] Mirkin Report; Gabe Merkin, MD

[3] Alternatives in Health, July/Aug 97

[4] Movement Disorders, July 1997

Editor's Note:

Readers would be shocked to find out just how many Parkinson's patients have made themselves known to us. It is a disease which affects an alarming percentage of us, and we will publish all the materials we can on the subject.

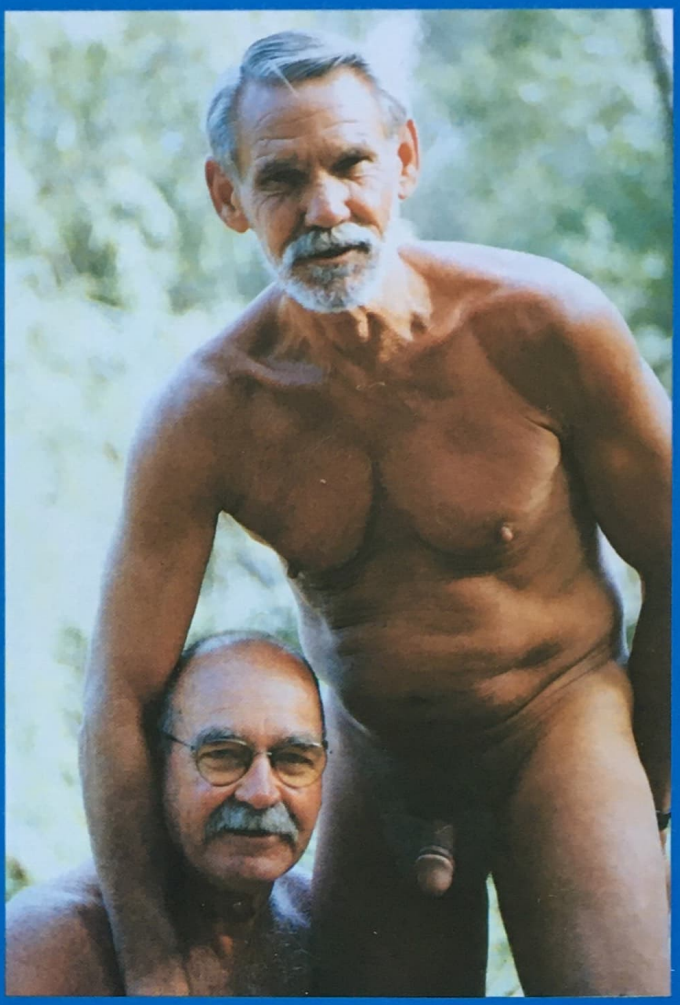
To learn a great deal about Parkinson's, browse through the hundreds of articles written by those on the cutting edge of Parkinson's research, preferably those associated with prestigious institutions.

BIG JIM
the commissioner

L.G.

PETER H. & JACK B.

photos by joel



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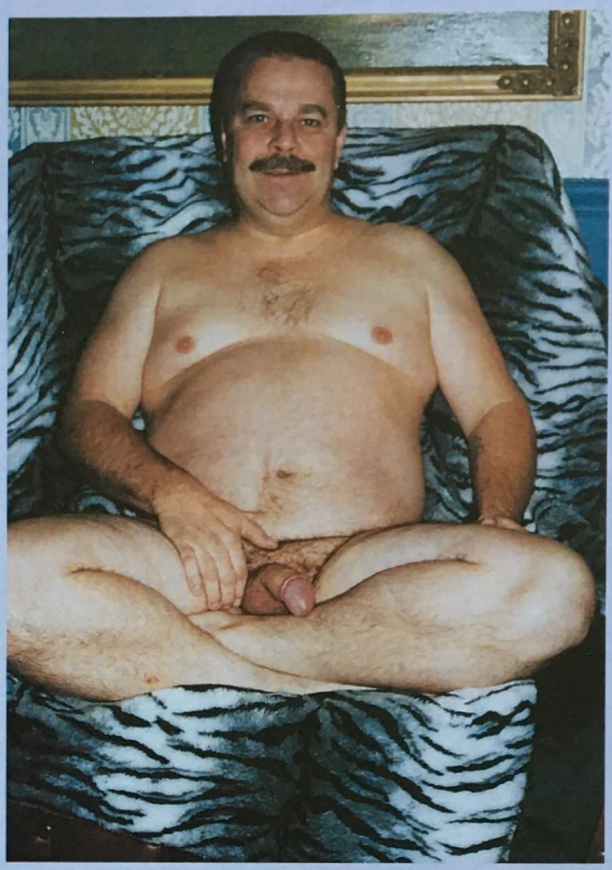

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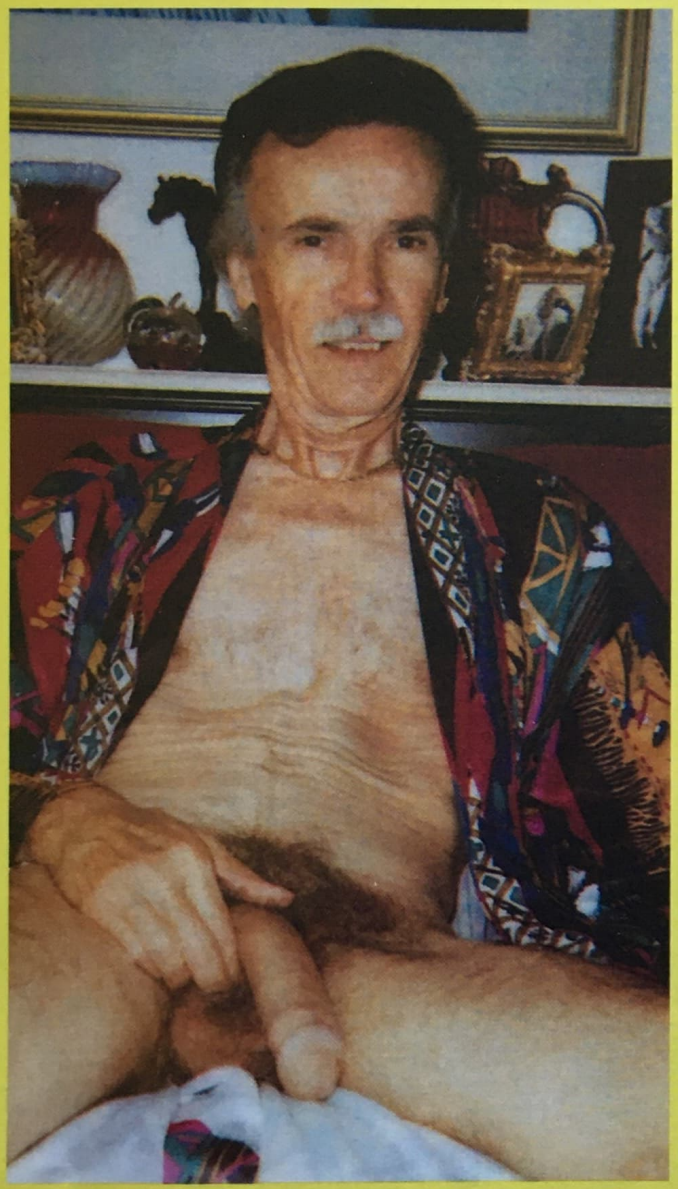

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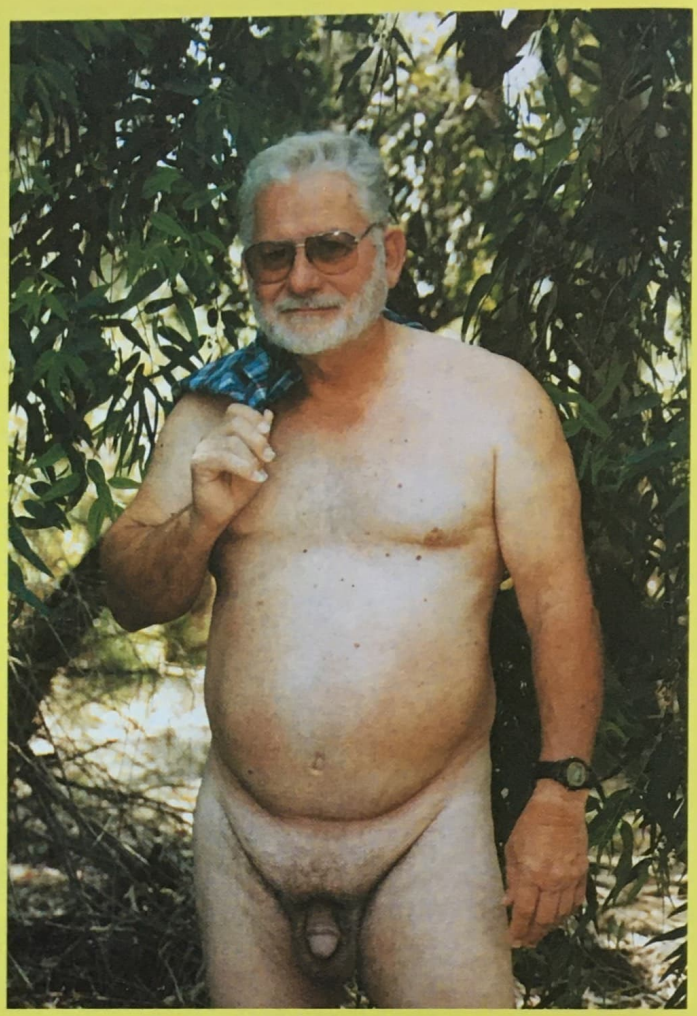

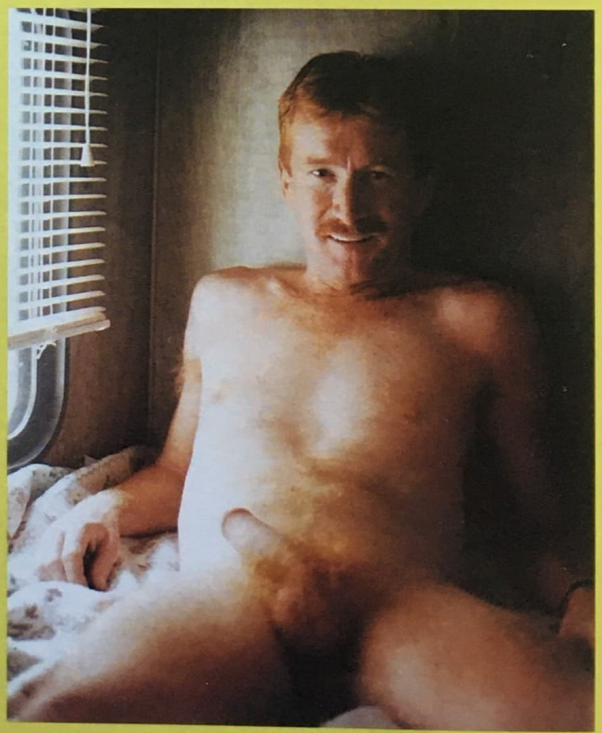

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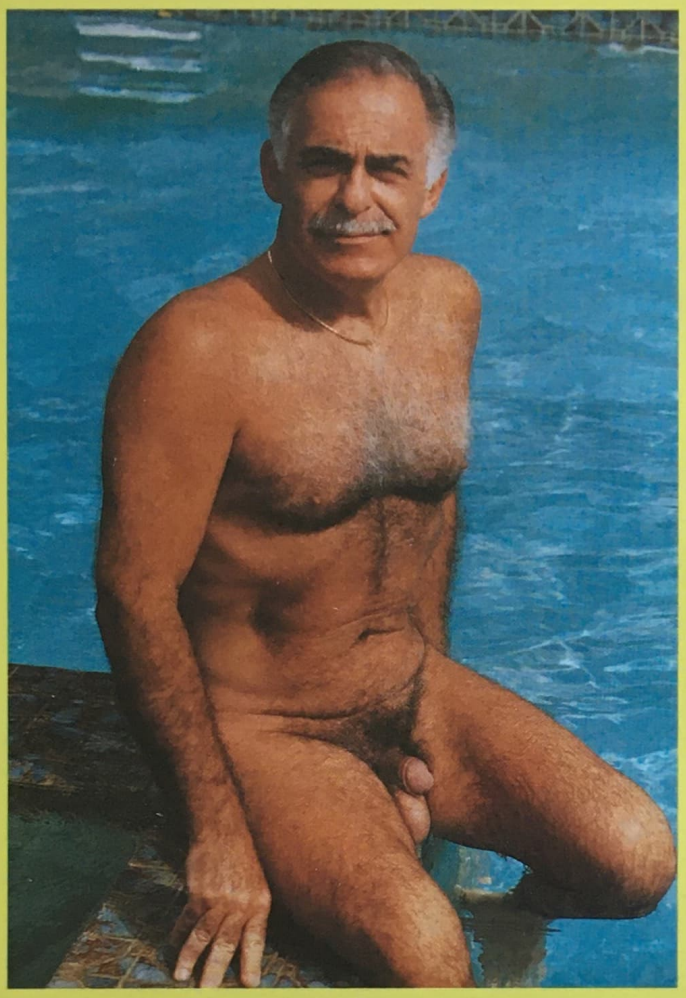

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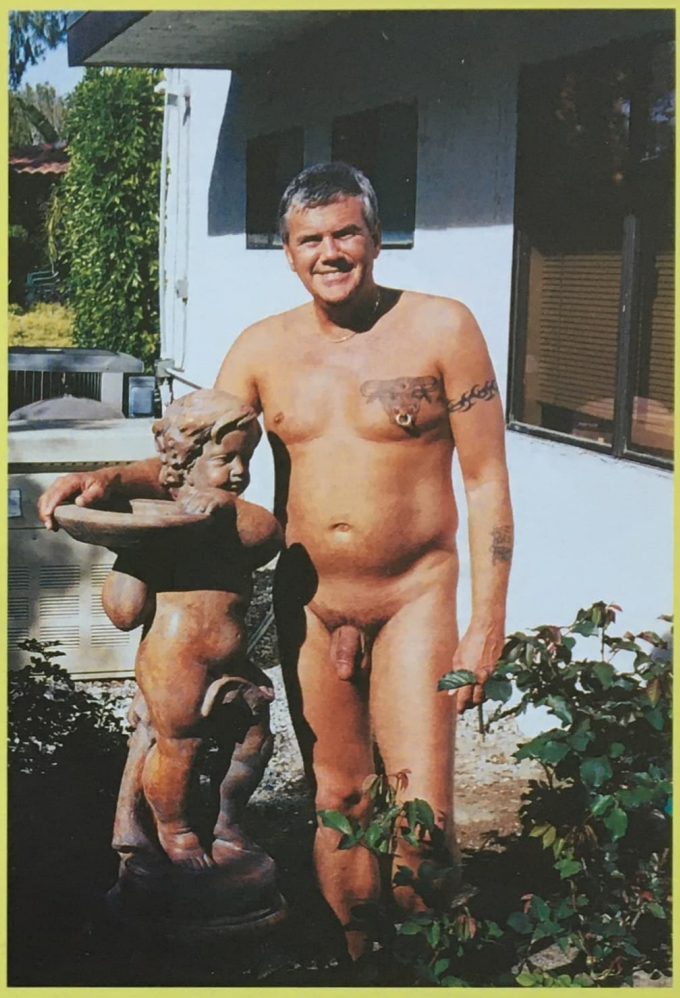

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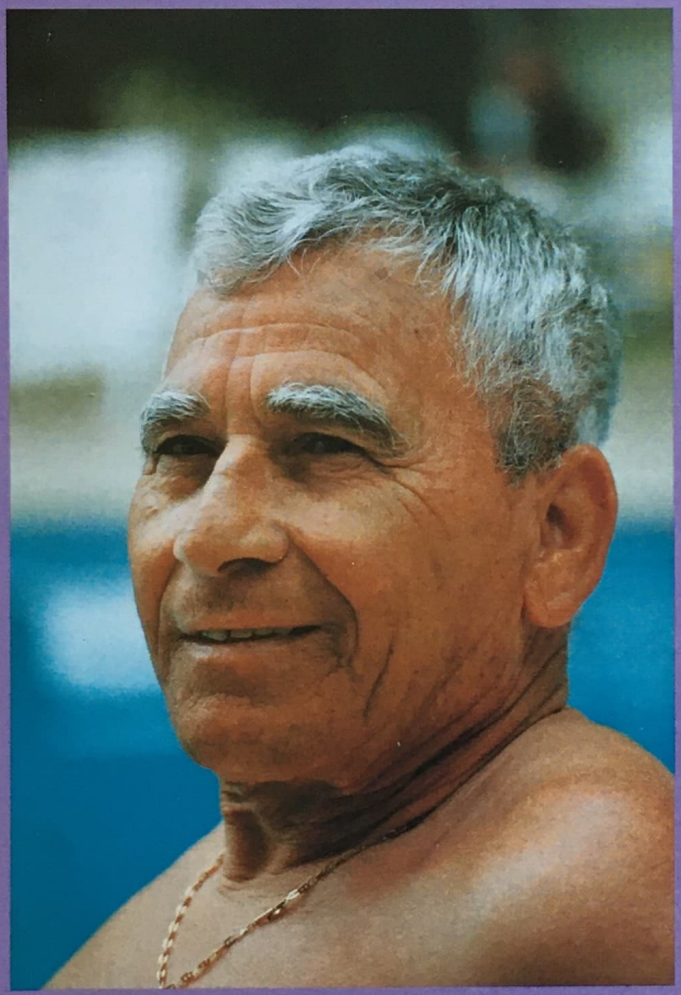

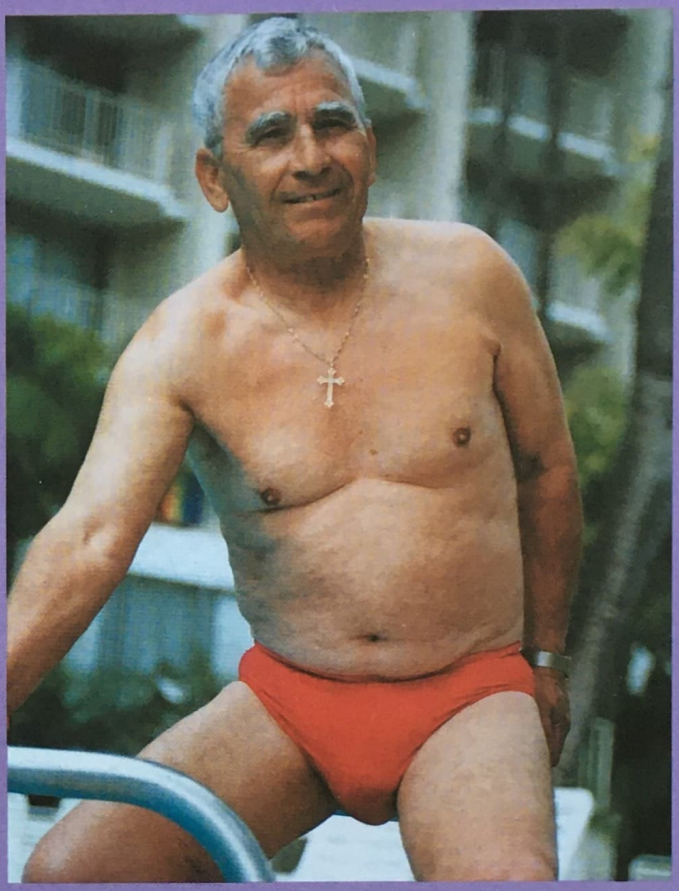

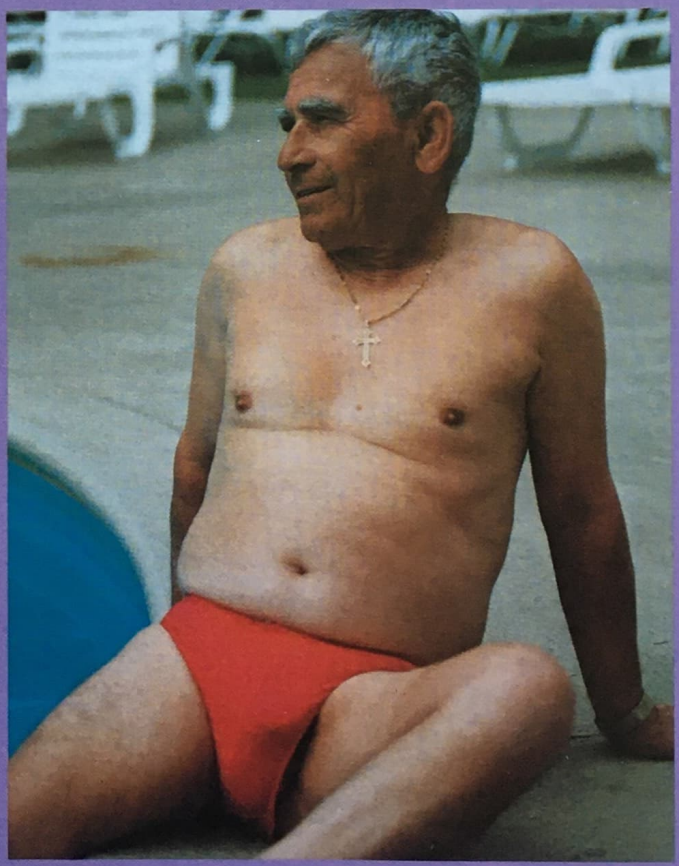

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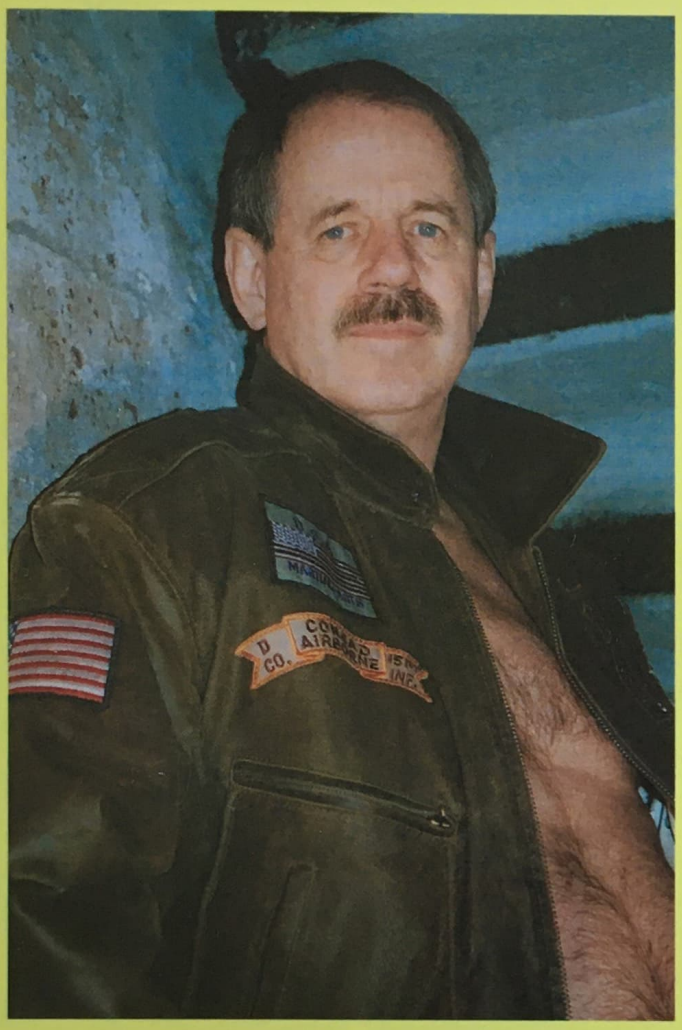

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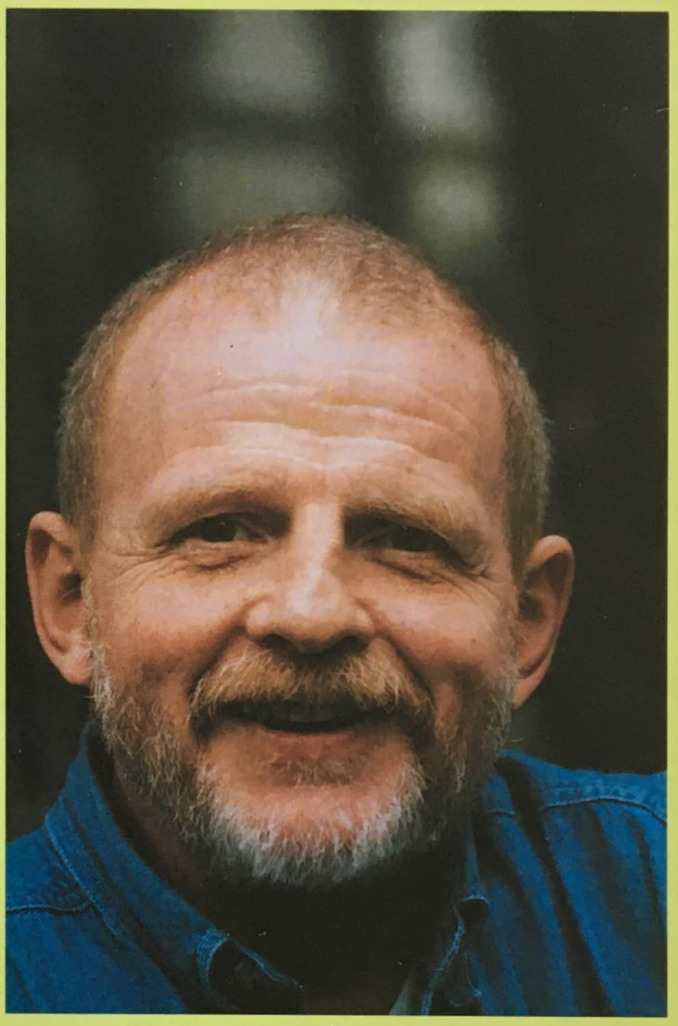

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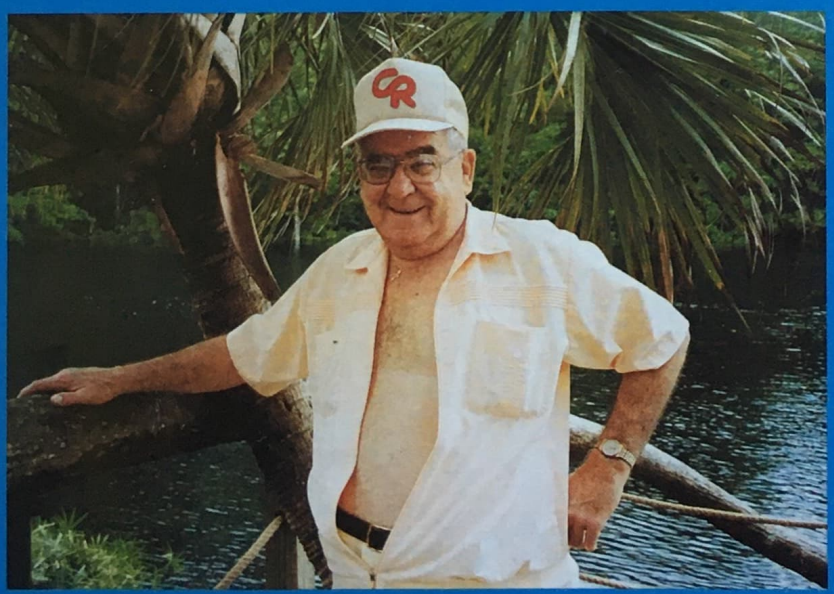

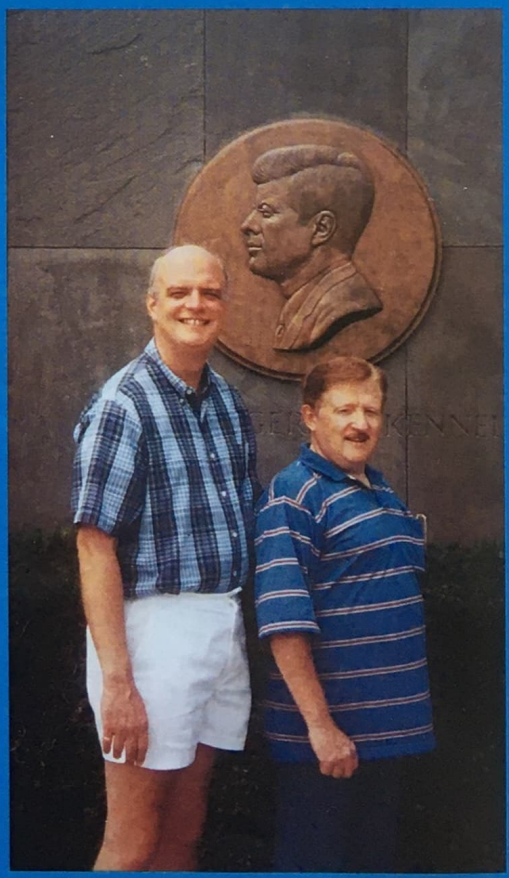

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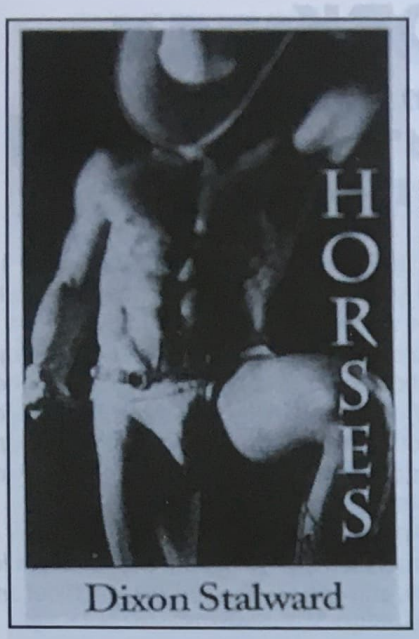

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Who is an Apollo Man?

Apollo Man, as opposed to men of other life styles, is impossible to define in one word. He is first and foremost a man who likes manly men. He is success oriented. He does not waste time on trendy living. Bars are not his weakness. He is more likely to program computers than arrange flowers. His theater of operation is more often a hospital than the state. He would not be caught dead in drag or date someone in a dress, male or female. Bottom line: he likes other masculine men-the company of other men, the merriment of other men, the jokes of other men, the work of other men, even the smell of other men, and, of course, the bed of other men.

Apollo Man does not mind breaking with the traditions of the group that society has cast him in. He delights in breaking the rules-even those from within his own group. He is, first, last, and always, his own man. But he is also a man who wants and realizes the advantages of bonding with another man who shares his dreams.

Apollo Man enjoys most the company of men who have honor and respect for the natural process of growing old. He knows that only in growing old is there growth of maturity and inner beauty in himself. This alone sets him apart from both heterosexual and homosexual society which worship youth and fear old age.

The process that gave us life also slowly takes it back, and it is done so in an orderly and reasonable fashion. Those men who appreciate and flow with the work of nature are naturally inclined to love men of all ages and appreciate men for whatever life stage (age) they are in. Apollo Men do not fear or despise growing old. Rather, they honor age as a sign of distinction. Consequently, Apollo Men are often attracted to each other across the traditional age barriers. Older men and younger men join in union, each helping and supplying the other with the gifts that each uniquely holds.

The name we chose, "Apollo,"is the name of the sun, the star of our solar system, the supreme male symbol, and the giver of life for us all. We came from the sun, and one day the sun will reach out and pull us back into its massive body.

Who is an Apollo Man? If what is said above describes how you feel about life and men, then YOU are an Apollo Man. Come join us as we explore ourselves on the Men of Apollo Network.

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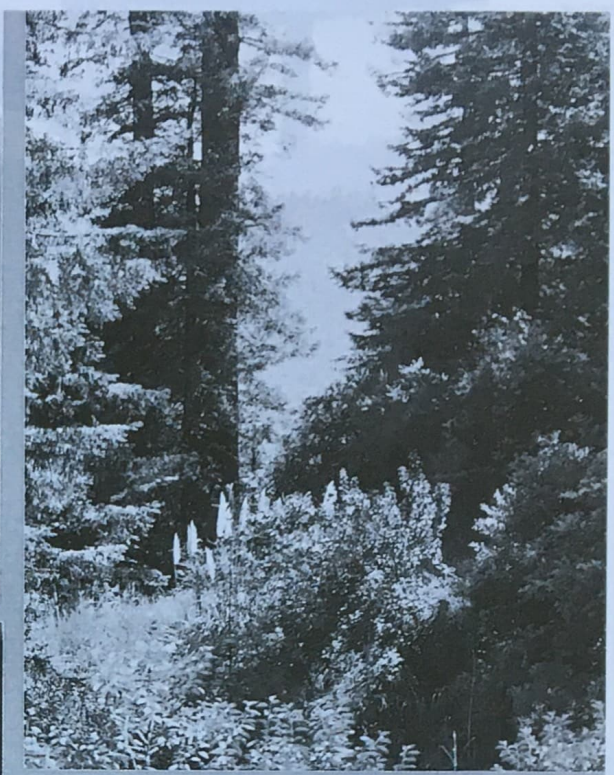

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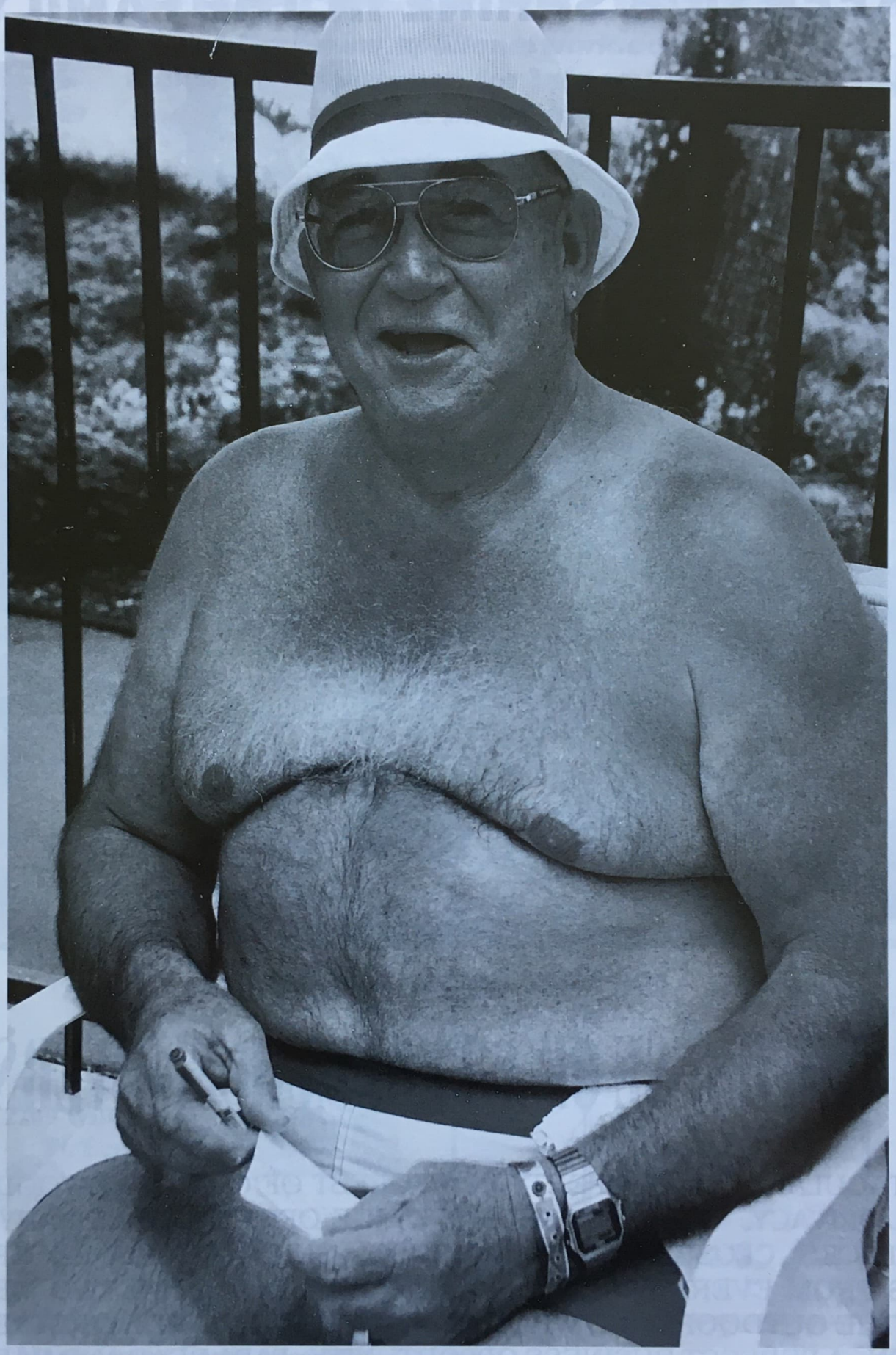

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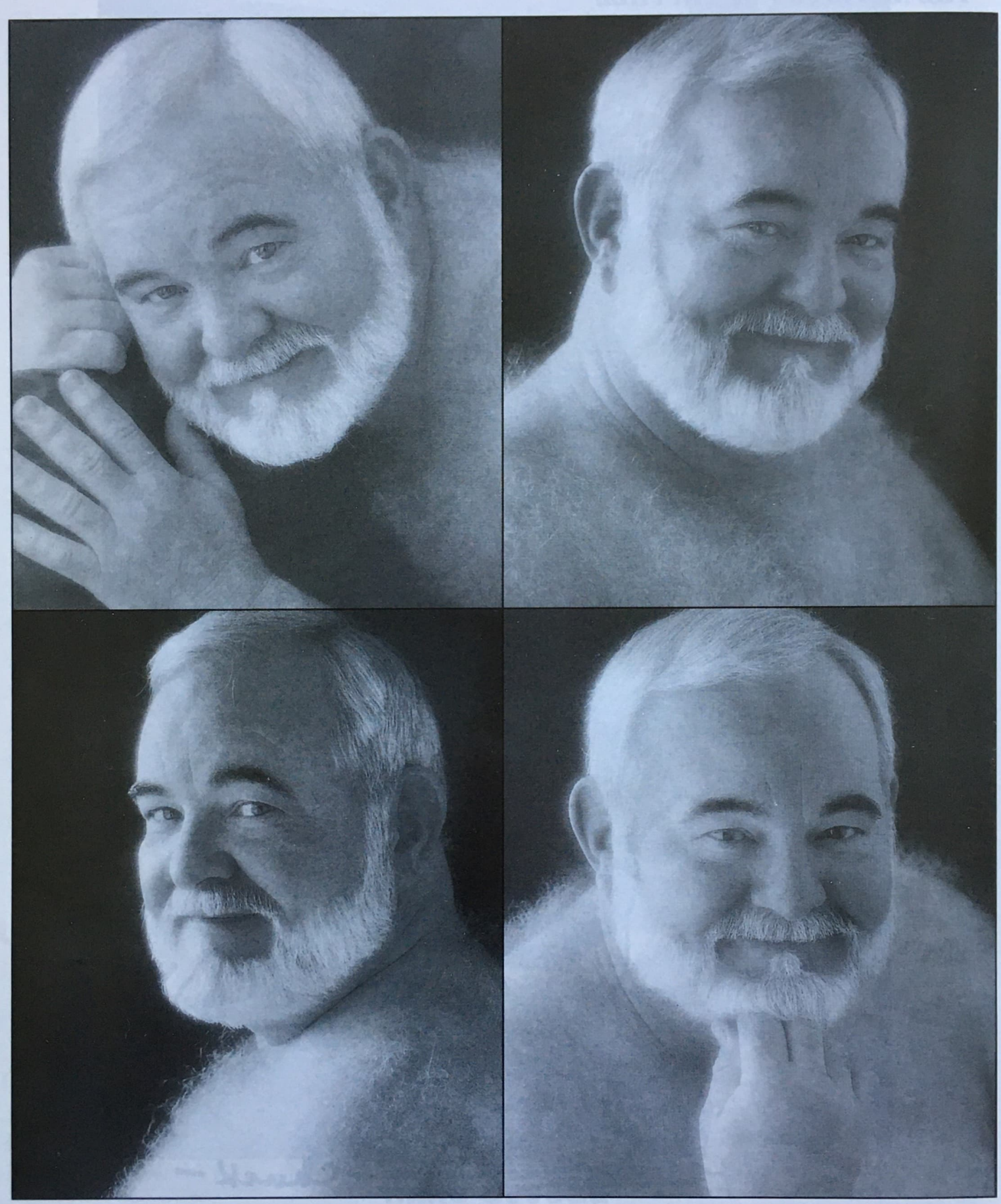
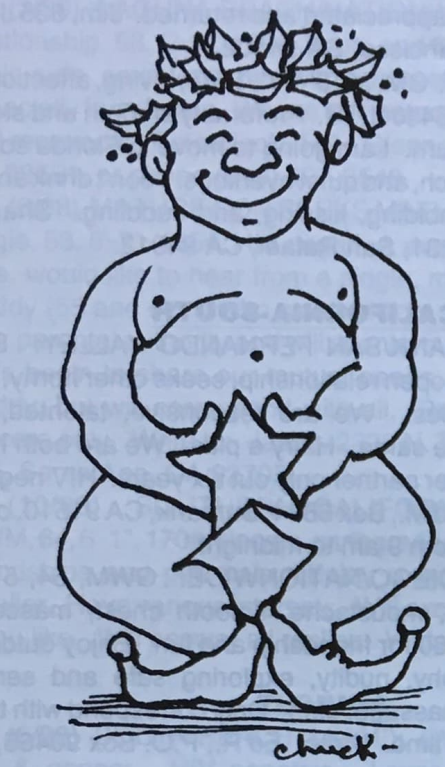
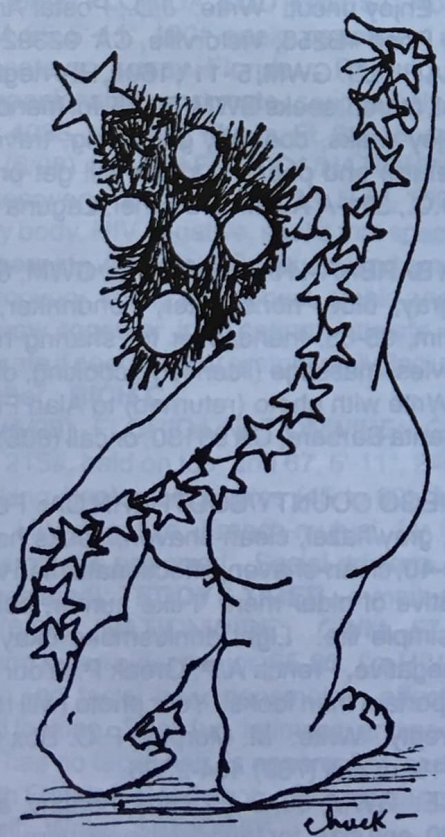


photos by manny

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS...





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THE CONTACT NETWORK

ALABAMA

(6/98) ALABAMA/INTERNATIONAL: In-shape, healthy, retired, 5'-6", 143#, still frisky at 70. Like travel, nature, photography, and parks. Letters, photos exchanged with active, 55+ men for friendship and meetings. Write: **GOODY**

ARIZONA

(10/98) ARIZONA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 60, 6 ft., 250#, HIV negative, looking for someone 30-60 for friendship and possible LTR, if compatible. Light drinker and smoker okay. No drugs. Looks and body not important, but heart and soul are. I am a student who is training to become travel agent. Love to travel. Just learning computers. Enjoy most forms of safe sex. Your photo gets mine: **BAREKAT**

(6/98) ARIZONA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 60, 5'-8", 200#, gray hair, seeks 34-50, preferably hairy and slender, committed to a monogamous romantic relationship. If you're sensitive, attractive, nonsmoking, no drugs, social drinker, and HIV negative, call this refreshing, high-energy, loving man today. Call (602) 347-8305. Your photo (will return) and telephone number will get a prompt reply. Write: Skip, P.O. Box 40002, Phoenix, AZ 85067-0002

(6/98) ARIZONA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 44, 5'-10", 135#, Brown/Brown, seeks masculine men around my age and older, any race, for correspondence, friendship, more. Likes: music, movies, gardening, romance, versatile sex. Write: C.D. Green, 8290 W. Camelback #105-28, Glendale, AZ 85303.

ARKANSAS

(6/98) ARKANSAS/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 51, 6'-1", 180#, athletic, fit, independent, closeted, non-gay scene, HIV negative. Seeking quality gentleman, 65+, with good heart, mind, character. Must have totally straight, masculine appearance. Prefer bi, non-gay scene gentlemen. Write. Exchange photos. Roland, Box 4302, Little Rock, AR 72214.

CALIFORNIA-NORTH

(6/98) SIERRA FOOTHILLS/WESTERN STATES: GWM, 66, 5'-7", 140#, physically sound, emotionally stable, financially secure, non-drinker, seeking an affectionate, mature gentleman for friendship, hopefully leading to a meaningful relationship. I enjoy classic cars, outdoors, travel, and learning new things. Write: M.K., P.O. Box 1473, Jamestown, CA or call (209) 533-8647.

(2/99) BAY AREA: Romantic, healthy, sexy, good lookin' (I've been told), active, intelligent, funny, 69-year-old, hoping to find a mature man to date. Object: matrimony. I'm 5'-10", 190#, white hair, blue eyes, smooth body with "average" build. Bill Jones, 324 Larkin St. #52, San Francisco, CA 94102.

(10/98) SAN FRANCISCO/NATIONWIDE: Asian, late 40s, 5'-6", slim, good looking, HIV negative, nonsmoker/drinker, easy-going, caring, affectionate, is interested in meeting an older GWM for possible relationship. Together we enjoy movies, traveling, cooking, quiet times, music. Please drop a line. Photo appreciated and returned. Jim, 535 Jones St. #2450, San Francisco, CA 94102.

(8/98) BEACH: GM, 33, 5'-10", 164#, loving, affectionate, seeking man over 64 for LTR. Preferably smooth and stocky. Your photo will return. I am going to move to Florida soon. I like the ocean, beach, and quiet evenings. I don't drink and am drug-free. I like holding, kissing, and cuddling. Sharrukh Khan, P.O. Box 2231, San Rafael, CA 94912.

CALIFORNIA-SOUTH

(4/99) BURBANK/SAN FERNANDO VALLEY: Sexy, masculine couple, open relationship, seeks other horny, virile singles and couples. We are responsive, talented, and playful. You be the same. Hairy a plus. We are both hairy, HIV negative. Older partner only out six years. HIV negative a must. Write: Fred M., Box 6884, Burbank, CA 91510, or call (818) 762-3675, from 9 am to midnight.

(6/98) SAN DIEGO/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 54, 5'-11", 235#, salt-pepper, moustache, smooth chest, masculine, discreet, seeks to 60 for friendship and fun. Enjoy outdoors/nature, photography, nudity, exploring safe and sensual encounters (e.g. massage, etc.). Only correspond with those can meet at some time. Write: Ed R., P.O. Box 90465, San Diego, CA 92169.

(6/98) DESERT/INTERNATIONAL: GWM, 74, 6 ft., 155#, nonsmoker, no drugs, HIV negative, seeks same, 45-70, for friendship and more. Enjoy traveling, reading, videos. Appreciate photo. Enjoy uncut. Write: J.D., Postal Annex, 17100 Bear Valley Road #B253, Victorville, CA 92392.

(6/98) LAGUNA HILLS: GWM, 5'-11", 160#, HIV negative, affectionate, honest, retired, seeks GWM, 50-75, for friendship/relationship. I enjoy walks, cooking, gardening, traveling. Your photo (will return) and phone number will get prompt reply. Write: W.O.C., 321-A Avenida Carmel, Laguna Hills, CA 92653.

(6/98) SANTA BARBARA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 67, 6'-1", 180#, blond/gray, blue, nonsmoker, nondrinker, HIV negative, seeks trim, 35-65, friend/lover for sharing home, garden, travel, movies, massage (licensed), cooking, dining, loving, intimacy. Write with photo (returned) to Alan Fisher, P.O. Box 40333, Santa Barbara, CA 93130, or call (805) 565-0169.

(6/98) SAN DIEGO COUNTY/SOUTHERN CA: Fun 68, 6 ft., 175#, GWM, gray/hazel, clean-shaven, seeks honest, intelligent, slim, 30-40, clean-shaven, affectionate man who is sincerely appreciative of older men. I like humor, being at home, antiques, simple life. Light drink/smoke okay. No drugs. I am HIV negative, French A/P, Greek P. Your heart and mind more important than looks. Your photo (will return) will get a prompt reply. Write: M. Murphy, P.O. Box 2206, Carlsbad, CA 92018, or call (760) 434-2336.

(6/98) VENICE: GWM, 83, 6'-2", 180#, healthy, active. Seeks GWM, 70-90, any size, for friendship and more. Photo and phone on request. Joe Mahon, 2532 Lincoln #142, Venice, CA 90291.

(6/98) LOS ANGELES/NATIONWIDE: WM, 39, 5'-8", 165#, professionally employed hairy man seriously seeks an affectionate hairy man with a marriageable daughter in order to make more beautiful hairy men. J.C. - (909) 396-1453.

(2/99) LAGUNA BEACH/NATIONWIDE: Couple, open relationship, 58, 5'-9", 160#, hung, and 65, 5'-8", 185#, hairy, seek safe sex/friendship with energetic mature male(s), especially furry bears. We are HIV negative, discreet, oral, tit, and reciprocal. Peter/Jack, 1494 Glenneyre, Laguna Beach, CA 92651, or phone (949) 497-3548.

(6/98) MATURE SON SEEKS MATURE DADDY: GWM, single, 53, 5'-7", 185#, HIV negative, average looks, nice guy type, would like to hear from a single, mature, HIV negative Daddy (55 and over) who wants a son. You like to exercise your parental authority and will spank your son when needed. Let's begin to share our mutual needs. Prefer a California Daddy, but will correspond with all. Relationship possible. Sincere only. Write to: Jason, 2323 N. Tustin Ave., Suite C-125, Santa Ana, CA 92705.

(10/98) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 64, 6'-1", 170#, sincere, caring, and passionate. Seeking friendships and pen pals. Enjoy men, 50-70, my size or smaller. Have various interests. Will exchange photos, nude if you like. Will answer all replies. Write: **LONER**

FLORIDA

(6/98) SOUTH BEACH (MIAMI): GWM, 60, 6 ft., 189#, salt & pepper, HIV negative. Loves cooking, traveling, walking. Seeks 30-55 GM, manly, for possible long-term relationship. Affection and sensual a plus. Photo and phone number get a quick reply: **DUKE**

(6/98) FLORIDA, SOUTHWEST: Roommate wanted. Bi/W/M, 65, 5'-11", 190#, seeks permanent roommate over 55 to relocate in sunny Florida. Rent to own. Friendship, companionship, soul mate, serious only. Write: R.C., P.O. Box 4038, North Ft. Myers, FL 33918, or call 941-656-3911.

(6/98) SOUTH FLORIDA/NATIONWIDE: Wanted: Man in Recovery. Sober GWM, 36, 5'-8", 160#, brown hair/eyes, hairy body, HIV negative, seeks that special someone, 55-80, to share life with. You: Spiritually and emotionally connected, in recovery, loving and honest, stable and secure, who wants to grow together in a caring, intimate relationship. I can relocate if needed. For prompt reply, include photo and phone number. **RICH C**

(6/98) FLORIDA/NATIONWIDE: GWM couple, 67, 5'-11", 215#, bald on top; and 67, 5'-11", 240#, light brown hair. Seeking singles or couples (45 to 80), honest, clean, drug-free, HIV negative, French-mutual, for friendship and sex. Nonsmokers preferred. Social drinkers okay. Write (photo appreciated): **TEDDY & TIGER** - e-mail: **tig69ted@aol.com**

(6/98) NATIONWIDE: GWM, 57, 5'-11", 195#, am looking for an older senior, 65-80. I'm HIV negative, gray hair, clean, no facial hair, nonsmoker, affectionate, considered good looking. Seek fun, intimacy, and good times with senior who has no facial hair, is nonsmoker, and loves sex. Visiting South Florida? Send photo. Will exchange photo and phone, e-mail. Write: **SENIOR57**

(4/99) SILVER FOX, 68, 5'-10", 190#, white moustache and sides, tummy, monogamous, honest, loving, caring, sincere, discreet, great sense of humor, seeking young (age 19 to 39), slender lifemate. Photo please. Write: Don, P.O. Box 11313, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33339.

(8/98) BEACH: (see Northern California)

GEORGIA

(6/98) ROSWELL, GEORGIA: GWM, 80, 5'-10-1/2", 220#, brown eyes, gray/white hair, 5" cut, widower, retired teacher, affectionate, masculine, seeking nonsmoker, no drugs, moderate drinker, 60-85, for friendship, pen-pal and more. Enjoy hugging, kissing, fondling, mutual J/O, French A/P. Your photo with phone # gets prompt reply. Inquire: **ROBI**

(6/98) GEORGIA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, fifties, 5'-6", 170#, bald, stash, likes sex, HIV negative, no smoke/drugs, seeking masculine, medium hung top, 40-64. Closed committed, monogamous, long-term relationship. Marriage? Yes! Photo, please. **JLN**

ILLINOIS

(6/98) ILLINOIS/NATIONWIDE: Old hippie seeks tall, lanky, cool dude, 55+. If you like sharing, fun times and good memories, I may be the one for you. Am 5'-8" 140#, ravaged-looking, devoted, a cuddler, and solvent. Write: H. Goldstein, 829 Aldine, Garden Apt., Chicago, IL 60657.

(8/98) ILLINOIS/NATIONWIDE: BiWPM, 29, 5'-11", 170#, trim, athletic, loves sports, camping/fishing, am loyal, fun-loving, sincere, professional, seeking Bi/GWM, 45-60, for correspondence and who knows? Pluses: gray(ing), moustache, moderately hairy, height/weight proportionate. Photo (will return) desired, but not necessary. Write: **HOOPS**

MAINE

(6/98) NATIONWIDE/INTERNATIONAL: 54, 5'-11", 185#, masculine, healthy, vigorous, into culture: baroque opera and actively and ambitiously involved in figurative drawing and painting portraits/nudes professionally. Seeking colleagues, students, models, patrons, comrades, lover. Please be clean, honest, healthy, sincere, vital, and enjoy life, art, love, and sex. Eager to connect. **ARTIST**

MARYLAND

(10/98) MARYLAND: GWM, 39, 5'-8", 180#, single, brown/blue, salt & pepper beard, well-built, seeks 45-70 buddy/daddy who is into racing, NHRA, IHRA. To start team for next season. Have car and knowledge, boxers and silk boxers. Powerboating as well. Too many options to list. Smokers and drinkers fine. Humor a must. Please, no open relationships, married men or reformers. Yours gets mine. Would like to meet someone with similar interests. A.C., P.O. Box 578, Owings, MD 20736.

(6/98) NATIONWIDE: GWM Couple, 66, 5'-8", 165#, s/p, blue, cut, well-hung; and 34, 6'-3", 235#, blue, brown, cut average. Both clean-shaven and moderately hairy. Seek males 40-70 for fun and friendship. Clean-shaven and well-hung a plus. Write: Chad and Morgan, 115 S. Meadow Drive, Glen Burnie, MD 21060.

MASSACHUSETTS

(6/98) BOSTON/NATIONWIDE: GHM, 38, 5'-6", 230#, Black/black, smooth body, into husky/hairy bears (manly). Love music, theatre, good times (hopefully more). J.R., P.O. Box 35081, Brighton, MA 02135.

MICHIGAN

(8/98) MICHIGAN/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 37, 5'-7", 155#, brown hair/eyes, mustache, masculine, discreet, honest, caring, very affectionate, presently in open relationship. Looking for older man between 50-75 for friendship and maybe more if the right spark is there. I prefer grandpa or masculine types over 50 yrs and 200 pounds, chubby or fat, with big firm belly and butt. Grey or white hair, balding, lots of body hair, beard or mustache, under 5'-7". Over 5'-7" should be over 250#. A nicely shaped large butt is a big plus. Send letter with photo to: G.S., P.O. Box 531472, Livonia, MI 48152.

(6/98) MICHIGAN: Christian GBM, 50, 5'-8", 165#, muscular, masculine, hard body, nice buns. Loves sports, movies, theatre, traveling, music, seeks nonsmoking top, aggressive, trim GM for monogamous relationship with the right gent. Serious only. Write: R.W., 430 Kellogg #102, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. (313) 761-5975.

[Editor Note: R.W.'s apartment numbers was erroneously published as #109 in last issue. Please note it has been corrected to read #102]

(4/99) MICHIGAN - EUP or NLP: You're intelligent, fun-loving, politically progressive, healthy, sensually affectionate, leisurely sexual, home/outdoors-enjoying, nearby or commuter. I'm SGWM, 48, 5'-11", 184#, bearish, rather hairy, bald crown/thick surround, salt and pepper beard, nonsmoker/drinker/doper, interested in arts and ideas. Detailed self-intro and buff photo (s) get mine. Dan Doran, Rt. 2, Box 282, Sault, MI 49783

MISSISSIPPI

(6/98) BILOXI: Retired professor desires to meet clergy, professional men, blacks. Am 71 years of age, Christian worker in church. Am available for travel to visit and for visitors to see me in my apartment. Write: J.W., P.O. Box 4056, Biloxi, MS 39535.

(6/98) BAY ST. LOUIS: Take care of an older man. He is just fine except a little unsteady on his feet. I am 72, 5'-9", 160#, uncut. You are 50-65, over 160#, preferably uncut. Free living in a pleasant town. Tom Horner, 212 Ballentine, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

MISSOURI

(6/98) ST. LOUIS: Hello to all, two nudists here. We are fun-loving, down to earth guys who love sex but also want long-term friendships. We're clean and healthy, into cock enlargement, jock straps, leather. Also into organic gardening, both vegetables and flowers. Love to share ideas on gardening, cock enlargement, and would love to meet friends. We're 52 and 62. Come visit and try our home-cooked food and true, sincere friendship. Will answer all and drive to meet all. Age, race not important. Just be clean and healthy and drug-free. Come on, guys, do write. Love you all! Art and Paul, 10360 Concord School Road, St. Louis, MO 63128.

NEVADA

(12/98) RENO: 60ish guy seeks friends (has lover). Likes offbeat travel, railroads, architecture, musicals. Rick. (702) 329-2474.

NEW JERSEY

(8/98) INTELLIGENT, LOYAL FRIEND: sincere, caring and affectionate. BiWM, 69, 5'-11", 165#; interests include cultural, scientific, spiritual, sexual. Me: Dignified, balding, fit, HIV negative. You: Mature (any age), enjoy intimacy, communication, control. Ken (201) 592-6690, 6-11:30 pm or weekends. Will return all calls.

(6/98) NEW JERSEY/NATIONWIDE: Asian, 41, 5'-6", 160#, attracted to older men over 60. Enjoy loving and being loved. Would like to meet someone for friendship or more. Plan to go to San Diego for the gathering and open for the right person to share the good times together. Photo appreciated. Write: D.L., P.O. Box 298, Mays Landing, NJ 08330.

(6/98) MOUNT HOLLY: GWM, 80, 5'-8", 150#, spiritual path, highly sexed. Service to others. Perfect health. Minister. Simple living. Peace. Kent R. Larrabee, 46 Brainerd St., Mount Holly, NJ 08060.

NEW MEXICO

(6/98) CLOVIS/INTERNATIONAL: GWM, 67, 5'-7", 185#, S & P hair, 'stache, full beard, brown eyes, glasses, HIV negative, seeks younger or ? guy who honestly enjoys caring for an older, dominant (but loving) top. I am open to relocating. Pluses but not requirements: small in stature, hairy, uncut, pierced, tattoos, easy going, good-humored, stable, honest, no drugs, prefer no smoke, service-orientated. Sex not the major factor; personality is. **NMBOSS**

NEW YORK

(4/98) NEW YORK CITY/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 66, 5'-10", 155#. This isn't the typical ad. Don't want to even suggest that I'm perfect, because I'm not, and you don't have to be either. Only be a younger, attractive, trim, masculine GWM, who is warm, sincere, honest and caring. (It's beginning to sound like a typical ad.) Must be HIV negative, drug-free, only an occasional drinker, and sincerely interested in a beautiful monogamous relationship. Let's find out all about each other through letters and photos. We may be pleased at what we discover. You may find my background as a performer interesting. Speaking of performing, I still can!! Write: **STILL PERFORMING**

(10/98) WESTERN NY/NATIONWIDE: Professional GWM, 57, 5'-6", 158#, bald, S & P goatee, blue eyes, enjoy jeans, boots, casual life-style. Seeks partner, preferably in late 30s or early 40s, who is outdoors, jeans, boots type of guy. Enjoy skiing, hiking, camping, and keeping in shape. You should too. Nonsmoker. Will relocate out west in next couple of years. **WRANGLER**

(2/99) LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 72, 6 ft., 235#, attractive, silver-haired and bearded, affectionate, hairy. Seeks man over 50 for long-term relationship and to share my interests in the performing/creative arts, gardening, the beach, romance, and travel. Please send photo and phone # to **LIBEARART**

(4/98) NEW YORK/WORLDWIDE: Puerto Rican bottom, 57, 196#, bald, dark skin, submissive, seeks dominant men. Write: Emilio Cruz, 582 Southern Blvd. #24, Bronx, NY 10455.

(2/99) BROOKLYN/NATIONWIDE: Couple, 57 & 54, 175 & 186, 5'-1" & 6'-2", balding/hairy & smooth/red hair, both cut. Seeking friends and couples in NYC and nationwide. We enjoy social nudity, small gatherings, theatre, country music. On fixed income: can't travel much, so come and visit, play. Write: Ken & Bob, 235 Adams St. #4F, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

OHIO

(6/98) S.W. OHIO/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 59, 5'-10", 230#, great personality, compassionate and loving. Enjoy flea markets, antiques, travel, good food, stimulating conversation. Open to long-term relationship, good friends, mature men, regardless of age. Be open to the "art of making love." Consider relocating. Robert, P.O. Box 20172, Cincinnati, OH 45220.

OKLAHOMA

(4/98) OKLAHOMA/NATIONWIDE: Not looking for a relationship, this very oral 85-year-old thinks he's still 60 and enjoys life just like he did at that age. I'm 6 ft, 210#, cut, affectionate, a cuddler. Enjoy corresponding and short-term visitors. Interests are the arts, vocal and piano music, nature, cooking, reading, nudity. Sooner, 1417 Locust St., Woodward, OK 73801, or call (580) 256-7284.

OREGON

(4/98) FOSTER: 61-year-old submissive white male, HIV negative, 5'-10", 170#, seeks dominant, strong-willed but gentle young master, 25-35, who would like to live in rural Oregon. No convicts, please. Please write: Supplicant, P.O. Box 231, Foster, OR 97345, or call (541) 367-2817.

PENNSYLVANIA

(4/98) PENNSYLVANIA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 31, 6'-2", 265#, clean-cut country boy with broad shoulders, seeks men, 45+, husky to heavy builds, hairy a plus. Have various interests. Send letters, photo if possible, to H.G. Bartley, P.O. Box 7, Forrestville, PA 16035.

TEXAS

(8/98) TEXAS: NATIONWIDE: GM, 42, masculine, handsome, 5'-8", husky, clean-cut, loyal, sincere, and passionate. Seeking monogamous long-term relationship with a sincere white male over 60 (no facial hair). K.O., P.O. Box 704, Cedar Park, TX 78630, or call Kevin @(512) 846-3821.

(6/98) TEXAS: GWM, 52, 6'-4", 235#, blue/gray, very hairy, HIV negative, educated, versatile, successful, retired, spiritual, near-vegetarian, mental & physical detoxing, lifetime sober, nonsmoker/drugs, motorhome traveler, calm, honest, thought-filled, nurturing, safety & health addict: seeking 25ish >55ish, trim, slightly muscled, ultra honest gwbham, for LTR. Non-working preferred so have hobbies/hopes to accomplish. No felonies, crazies, players, drugs, tobacco. HIV negative. Both into discussion and compromise! I'm not a control freak, and you'll be well cared for but not spoiled. I expect the same. Photo/long letter to: MN, P.O. Box 1030, Del Valle, TX 78617-1030. E-mail: baroneri@cvtv.net

UTAH

(10/98) WESTERN STATES/NATIONWIDE: 59, 195#, athletic, good shape, love all sports, hairy chest, hung, masculine, nice guy, HIV negative, French A/P, safe, discreet. Seeks hairy GWM, masculine, average to large equipment, nice guy, no kink, married okay. Pluses: stocky (not real heavy), extra hairy, bald, facial hair. All answered. Looks or age not important. Sincerity is. **DAN MACK**

VIRGINIA

(12/98) GEN XER, GBM: from Maryland, 6'-1", 275#, cute, and looking for a Dad. I'm a guy into all sizes, races, etc. Interests range from reading and writing to computers, music and just having fun. Sexually, I'm into it all. E-mail: **yng1@tomco.net**, or contact Nate, P.O. Box 13411, Arlington, VA 22219.

WASHINGTON

(6/98) NATIONWIDE/INTERNATIONAL: World-traveling man seeks friends around the world to share adventures with. I ski at Sun Valley, Idaho, sail on Puget Sound, and travel extensively. I'm 6'-1", 215#, 61, hairy, bearded, affectionate, and aggressive. If you want to know a man who has a good heart, let me hear from you. Photo/phone appreciated. Sam, Box 5132, Everett, WA 98206, or call (206) 292-1096.

INTERNATIONAL

(NOTE: Letters to coded advertisers will be returned to sender if postage is insufficient.)

(6/98) CENTRAL MEXICO: GWM, 60, 5'-11", 240#, thinning blond-grey hair, hairy chest, father of three adult children, seeks correspondence from men, 18-50. If you smoke and drink socially, that's fine. I do as well. I am a still-working, self-employed professional who enjoys music (country to classical), cooking, entertaining, gardening, travel, reading, great conversation, and mutually pleasurable hot, hot sex. I am HIV negative and you should be as well. Looks not important as long as you are passionate and our interests in and out of bed mesh. A casual relationship? Absolutely. A long-term relationship? Definitely. Write: **AMIGO**

(6/98) RIO DE JANEIRO/WORLD-WIDE: GBM, 35, 5'-9", 140#, bearded, friendly, humorous. Enjoys travels, beaches, movies, plays, going out with friends, quiet evenings at home, cuddling, safe sex, top. Seek 45-60, salt and pepper, hairy, bearded (a plus). Pen-pals welcome. Photo gets reply. Especially interested in hearing from those in UTAH. Write: N.H., CP3586, Rio de Janeiro/RJ, 20.000-970, BRAZIL.

(6/98) ARGENTINA: GWM Caucasian, 58, 5'-7", 150#, 7" uncut, HIV negative, brown hair, grey-green eyes, hairy chest, healthy, slim, masculine, versatile, good-looking, successful professional, retired, secure, and independent. Likes travel, theatre, reading, music, arts, nature, beaches, gym, hiking, and all good things of life. No smoking, light drinking, no drugs. Based in Argentina, spends long seasons in USA and Europe. Looking for a nice, charming, fit, slim/muscular, attractive, masculine silver fox, a man's man. Write: R.M.Z., CC 94, Suc 48, 1448 Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA.

(6/98) INTERNACIONAL: Somos dos amigos, Brasileiro y Argentino de 60 y 55 años. Procuramos amigos, robustos o gorditos, "GWM," mayores de 45 años. Apreciariamos retrato. Podemos hospedar. Escribir: Juan V. Soulet, Rua Conde Lage, 54/101, CEP 20241-080, Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL. E-mail: **juar@antares.com.br**

(6/98) GERMANY: GWM, 53, 5'-9", 210#, healthy, professional, seeking friends older than me, chubbies welcome. I like reading, music, art, nature, nudity and traveling. Live alone in the country in Bavaria near Salzburg and can have visitors. I am versatile, like to please. Letter with photo gets mine. Write to: H.W. Bernt, Hinterschnaitt 1, 83317 Teisendorf, GERMANY.

(6/98) WORLDWIDE: GWM, 55, 6 ft., 180#, white hair, in-shape, possessing a variety of interests, motivated, sincere, honest, seeks senior, 65 and up for friendship and more. Prefer husky and stocky. I can travel and give hospitality. Detailed letter and photo essential. Write: **AMICO ITALIANO**

(8/98) NATIONWIDE: German Bear Daddy, dominant, 51, 6'-5", 220#, nonsmoker/non-drinker, is looking for bearded, submissive men, 30-80, for fun times/interesting action. Sexual interests are: L/L, black, blue, red, yellow. Appreciate artistically inclined, educated men from all ethnical backgrounds. No substance abuse, recreational drugs. Come to USA irregularly; (March 1998: WA/CA) can host travelling couples/singles over here and give tourist advice for Germany. Letters and pics to JWH Ridder, Beethovenstr. 5, D-33604 Bielefeld, Germany.

(4/99) ITALY: I'm 25, steady, quiet, likeable, sweet, polite. Looking for a serious Dad who is distinguished, tender, over 50, to be the King of my life. The Santa Claus of my dreams. "...to be one of each other, just master, just pupil..." A good letter will be appreciated. Write: **VENEZIA**

(6/98) INTERNATIONAL/GERMANY: GWM, 53, 5'-8", 190#, short beard, belly, seeks men, 45-85 world-wide for correspondence, friendship, more. Prefer husky, stocky, with a big belly. Can host traveling singles or couples. Likes: BMW motorbikes, leather breeches and police boots, police uniforms, traveling, Australia, collecting teddy bears, fleamarkets, versative sex, and threesomes. Write: **POLICE TEDDY BEAR**

[IMPORTANT NOTE: Send unsolicited photos at your own risk. If you have sent solicited photos to a model or advertiser and they are reluctant to return same, write them again and copy us. Notice to models and advertisers: we will not tolerate failure to return solicited photos when asked to do so. Responders: please make sure you fit an advertiser's guidelines before writing. The advertiser is under no obligation to answer responders who are not the type asked for.]

ALL ABOUT PLACING ADS AND RESPONDING TO ADVERTISERS AND MODELS

1. COMMERCIAL RESPONSE TO PERSONAL ADS: The express purpose of our personal ads is to aid our readers in finding friends and mates. Any ads of a commercial nature must be placed in the commercial section. Readers responding to personal ads may not use such opportunity to distribute commercial materials. We reserve the right to deny advertising and forwarding privileges to any person found doing this.

2. PERSONAL ADVERTISER'S RESPONSIBILITY: Personal advertisers are urged to answer all mail received, provided the responder is generally the type of person targeted in the ad. We will deny advertising and forwarding privileges to flagrant, repeat offenders.

3. PUBLISHER'S LIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILITY: We take no responsibility for any undesirable relationship or experience resulting from the use of our classified ads, be they personal or commercial. We will monitor all ads and refuse to publish those which obviously imply fraud or peril. Very unsavory people have been known to use publications to victimize readers and advertisers. Seemingly innocent ads designed to lure as many readers as possible into a criminal scam or government sting operation are sometimes placed in erotic magazines. These people also respond to the ads of others with the same come-on. We urge our readers to use these ads with the utmost caution and common sense.

4. AGE REQUIREMENT: All responders and advertisers must be 18 or over. The exclusion of an age limitation in any ad does not constitute an invitation to minors.

5. OUTDATED ADS: Do not answer ads in older issues. People move and post office boxes change hands. Your letter could end up in the wrong hands. Unforwardable letters will be marked with a "U" and returned to sender.

6. SEXUALLY EXPLICIT ADS: We will not publish ads with sexually explicit or coarse language designed more for shock value than for attracting a partner. We reserve the right to edit, rewrite or reject ads.

7. INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANSWERING CODED ADS, which are those with BOLD code names at the end of the ad and no address:

>> Write, stamp and seal your letter inside a discreet envelope. Make sure you have enough postage for overweight and foreign letters. Your return address must be shown on your letter to be forwarded. If you do not have access to U.S. stamps, send $1 or 2 international reply coupons for every 3 letters (over and above the forwarding fee). Stamped letters not meeting the above requirements will be returned with no explanation. Letters with no stamps affixed will be shredded.

>> IN PENCIL ONLY, lightly write the code word in the center of the envelope.

>> **Figure your forwarding fee: $1 per every three letters to forward.**

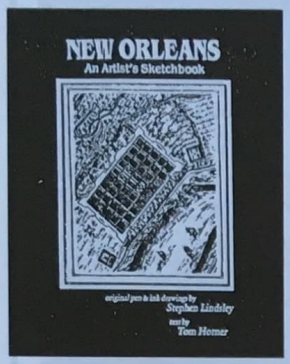
For one (1) to three (3) letters, enclose $1
For four (4) to six (6) letters, enclose $2
For seven (7) to nine (9) letters, enclose $3, and so on.

CASH ONLY!

>> Place your letter(s) inside a larger envelope and mail to CR at P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393.

8. INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING MODELS, WRITERS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS: Same as #7.

NEW ORLEANS
An Artist's Sketchbook



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Text by
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New Orleans Times-Picayune

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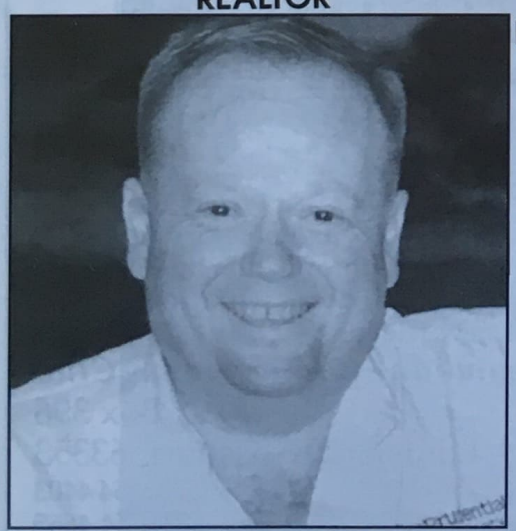
REALTOR



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Members are listed in and receive The Roster & bi-monthly updates, with 4-line description of all other members including:

- Location (City, state, or country)
- Age, height, and weight
- Personal interests and tastes
- Sexual and social orientation & visibility
- HIV, relationship and/or marital status
- Type of contact sought (Me...You...)

After identifying those of most interest, they send for full page profiles filled out by each member giving more specific information, as well as means of contact.

Annual membership listing is $32, including bi-monthly updates of new members; *CR readers mentioning this ad can deduct $6.* Profiles are $1 for the first, and $.50 for each additional. Members with a positive HIV status pay whatever they can afford.

For membership forms and further information, send SASE to:

THE NATIONAL ROSTER
POB 20975/PACC NEW YORK, NY 10129-0009

Note: We are very selective as to publications where we advertise; our strictly confidential member lists are never sold or distributed.

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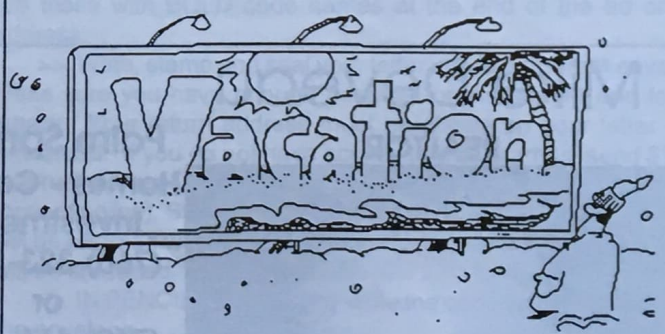

- ▼ Stay in private homes of members across the U.S. and other countries
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Fax (573) 754 4665
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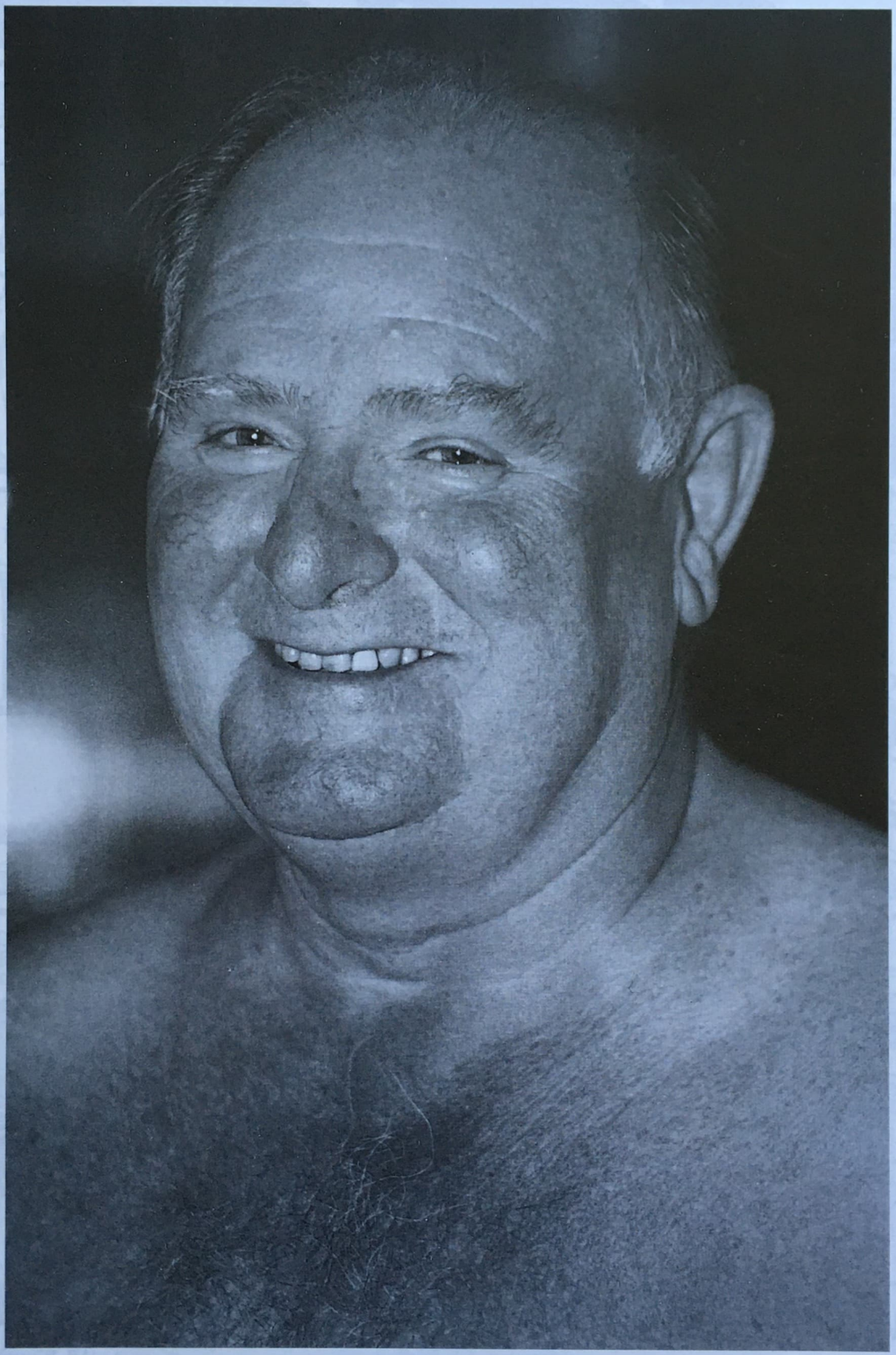
WILLIAM OF HASTINGS



PHOTOMAN

TAURUS & ARNIE

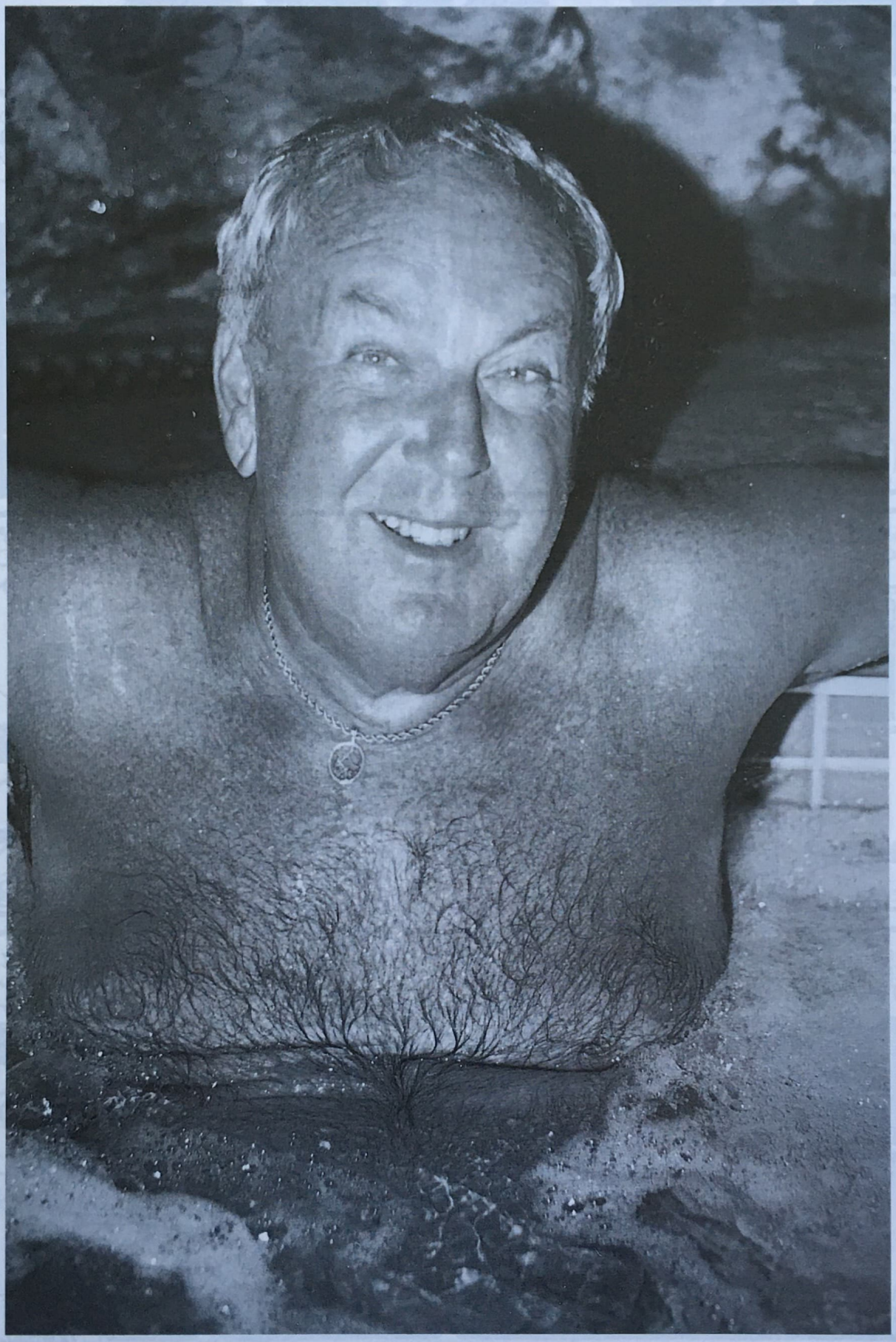
joel

MAX BUCK

SEYMOUR! I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER COME!
HI, MAX! I CAN ONLY STAY A LITTLE WHILE!
WHATTAYA TALKIN' ABOUT? THIS'S MY ANNUAL MOON-LIGHT DIP EXTRAVAGANZA! OVER FORTY MEN WILL BE HERE... SANS DUDS, DUDE!
I KNOW! I KNOW!
SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? YOU'RE IN GOOD SHAPE, FOR YOUR AGE...
YEAH...
AND I KNOW YOU'RE NO PURITAN... SO WHAT GIVES?
YOU DON'T HAVE A THING TO FEEL NERVOUS ABOUT. THESE ARE ALL GUYS THAT YOU KNOW!
YEAH... THAT'S WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF!
© QUEEBAL 1995

from SILVER BALLS no. 3

DON OF THE DESERT



PHOTOMAN

CR PRICE LIST AND ORDER FORM

MAGAZINES

	U.S. FIRST CLASS AIRMAIL- CANADA/MEXICO CENTRAL/SO AMERICA	AIR MAIL ELSEWHERE
SUBSCRIPTIONS 6 bimonthly issues of CR.	48.00	60.00
	(circle which applies)	
CR BACK ISSUES: 70 thru 76, 78, 79, 81, 82, 83, 84	8.00 EA	10.00 EA

Note: Postage and handling charges are included in the above pricing. Not subject to sales tax.

List back issues ordered: _____ @ _____ $ _____

PERSONAL AD

BASIC AD: _____ Words @ 30 cents per word X _____ Issues = $ _____

CODE WORD: @ 5.00 X _____Issues= _____

TELEPHONE VERIFICATION @5.00 (one time charge per ad) _____

CONVENTION

ORLANDO 99 ( ) Persons @ 99.00 ea (special price thru 7/31/98) $ _____

APPAREL

White adjustable cap	14.95 EA
Black/suede bill adjustable cap	19.95 EA
Forest green polo - L, XL (circle item)	36.95 EA
Forest green polo - 2X, 3 X (circle item)	38.95 EA
Tan polo - L, XL (circle item)	36.95 EA
Tan polo - 2X, 3X (circle item)	38.95 EA
Add Shipping and Handling	
U.S.A., Canada, Mexico, Central America, South America	5.00 per order
Europe	7.00 per order
Africa, Middle East, Pacific Rim	8.00 per order
(California Sales Tax paid by CRPI)	

TOTAL ENCLOSED U.S. $ _____

NOTE: DO NOT SEND CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS FOR LESS THAN $10.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Check ____ Money Order ____ VISA ____ MASTER CARD ____ AMERICAN EXPRESS ____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration _____

Signature (the signing of this form authorizes the above charges): _____

Your credit card billing address for verification only: _____

ALLOW 6 TO 8 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFISCATION BY FOREIGN CUSTOMS. Enclose check or money order in U.S. funds (postal money order or American Express Moneygram only from overseas-no checks unless through U.S. banks), payable to CHIRON RISING. SEND CASH AT YOUR OWN RISK. Mail to CHIRON RISING PUBLICATIONS, INC., P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST (PROVINCE)/ZIP (CODE):_____

COUNTRY (If other than U.S.A.): _____

I certify that I am over the age of 18, having been born on Day ____/ Month ____/ Year ____.

Signature: _____

ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE MAILED DISCREETLY

HOW TO ORDER A CLASSIFIED AD

NOTE: WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR AD NO LATER THAN: 8/15/98 FOR CR87; 10/15/98 FOR CR88; 12/15/98 FOR CR89

1. On a sheet of paper,TYPE OR LEGIBLY PRINT your ad the way you want it to appear in CR, then figure your cost by filling out the previous form.
2. Multiply the number of words by 30 ¢ and multiply that times the number of issues in which you want the ad to appear.

3. If you are using a codeword (An alias only you and we know. We receive your mail, decode and forward to you), you must multiply $5 by the number of issues in which you want the ad to appear and add to the total. If you do use a codeword, make sure it is unique. We will assign another name if your particular codeword has already been taken.
4. If you want to use your telephone number in the ad, you must include $10 for a one time verification and add that to the total as well (not applicable if you've placed an ad with your telephone number in the past year).

IMPORTANT:
YOU MUST USE YOUR REAL NAME, AN ALIAS OR INITIALS IF YOU USE A P.O. BOX. WE WILL NOT ALLOW THE USE OF "OCCUPANT" OR "BOX HOLDER" OR A BLANK SPACE. YOU MAY NOT PLACE AN AD FOR SOMEONE ELSE. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ALTER, RE-WRITE OR REJECT ANY AD WE FEEL IS NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THIS PUBLICATION. YOUR REAL NAME, ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE AT THE BOTTOM OF YOUR NOTE INDICATES THAT YOU AUTHORIZE THE PRINTING OF THE AD AND TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY INCIDENT OR RELATIONSHIP RESULTING THEREFROM. YOUR AD WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED WITHOUT THIS INFORMATION INCLUDED.

SAMPLE AD ORDER

DEAR CHIRON RISING,
PLEASE PLACE THE FOLLOWING AD IN YOUR NEXT AVAILABLE ISSUE UNDER UTAH:
(NOTE: THE WORD COUNT IS INTENDED FOR A GUIDE FOR CUSTOMER. NOT REQUIRED FOR AD.)

"SALT LAKE CITY/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 66, 5'-8", 187#, bald with white fringe, seeks 30-65,
(word count) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
preferably hairy and stocky, for friendship and more. I enjoy skiing, hiking, camping, fishing, cooking,
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
traveling, and gardening. Your photo (will return) and telephone number will get a prompt reply.
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45
Write: J.D., 17 Moonfinch Road, Black Rock, UT 84199
46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

My name and address: Col. Jack Deegan
17 Moonfinch Road
Black Rock, UT 84199

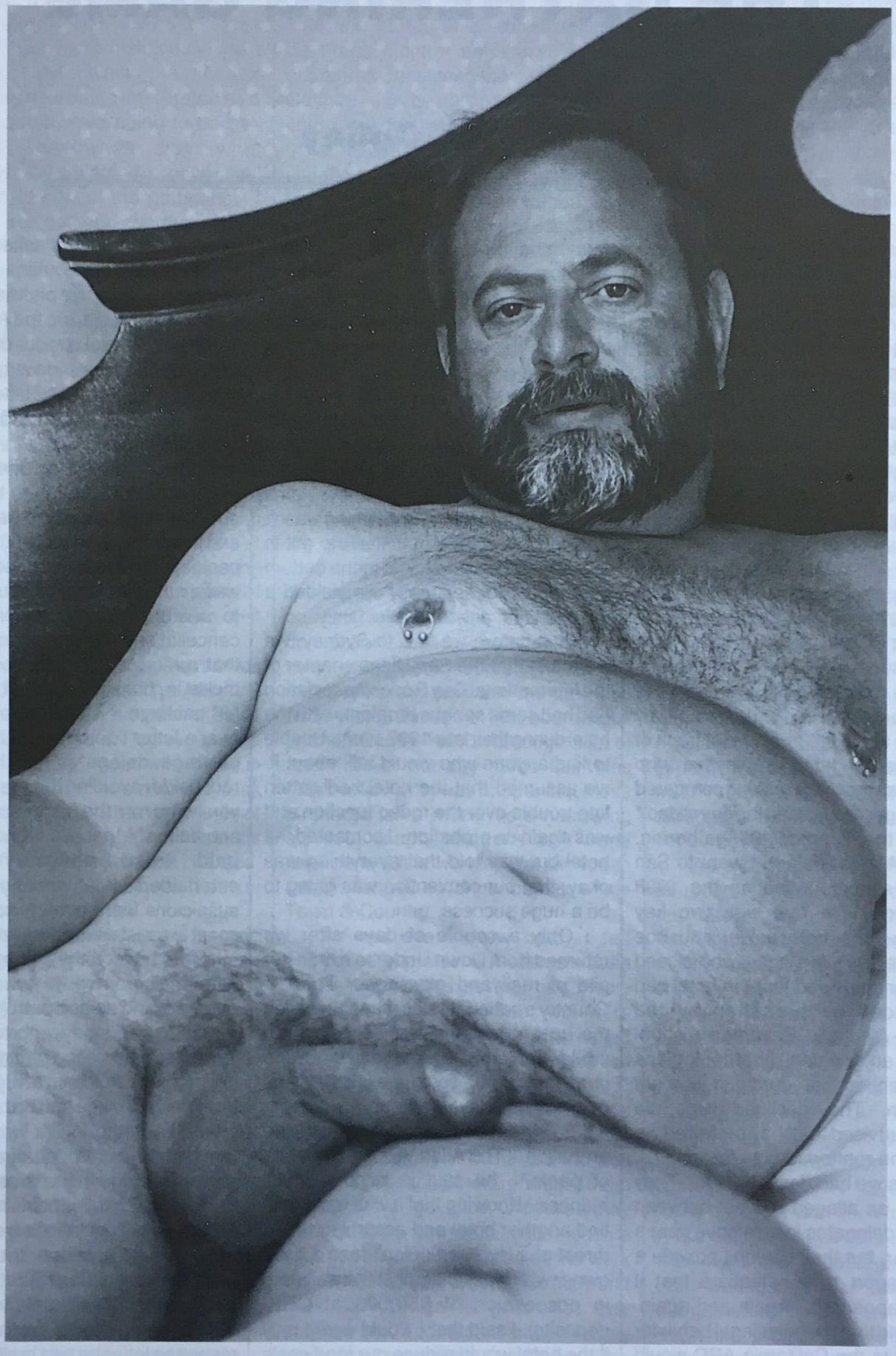
The pricing calculation for my ad is enclosed (from page 55).

I authorize the printing of the above ad and take full responsibility for any incident or relationship resulting therefrom. I am over the age of 18.

Signed: _____

ORDERS NOT USING THE ABOVE FORMAT WILL BE RETURNED. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE DO NOT SEND NOTICES OUT THAT YOUR AD IS EXPIRING. THE DATE PRECEDING YOUR AD IS YOUR EXPIRATION DATE.

PETER OF L.A.



joel

THE GATHERING GAME

by P.H. Colley

The Town & Country has always been a very special convention hotel. When we first asked them to bid on our 1996 convention, they boasted about welcoming groups that other hotels would normally not want: swinger groups, 5,000-strong gay rodeo parties, men-only conventions like ours. We were delighted to have found such a liberal host for our west coast gatherings. The 1996 gathering went so smoothly that we signed contracts for both 1998 and 2000 (we stopped short of signing one for 2002). The hotel was great about everything: the artists were allowed to display and sell anything, porn or otherwise. The hotel staffers were unimpressed by those few delegates who were caught having sex in the therapy pool and even shrugged off my request to close the pool. I lost track of the number of hotel employees who said: "Oh you guys are nothing compared to the swinger groups and the gay rodeo."

After the Orlando '97 gathering, CHOCOLAD, Bruce and I went to San Diego to start coordinating the 1998 convention. We met with two key managers—one from sales, and one from convention services—who closed the door and advised that the hotel had been placed on probation by the California Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for an "incident" that took place near a service bar during a straight convention. They declined to go into detail but advised that they preferred we not use the rooftop lounge for our D.J. dancing as we had done in 1996. They alluded to an alleged sex act between two of our delegates in an alcove near a service bar, but they couldn't provide a security report to substantiate that it actually happened. Again and again, we were told that the only illegal behavior of interest to the California ABC would be a sexual act within so many feet of a permanent or temporary bar. Remembering that the rooftop lounge was too small anyway, we agreed to move the D.J. dancing to the California Room. We got the impression that the probation was something that would pass quickly, and we left with a good feeling about 1998.

Toward the end of 1997, the hotel asked us to reconsider having a planned nude photography workshop, again claiming that their probation problems necessitated the ban. Something wasn't adding up, but the Australian trip got in the way of our trying to get to the bottom of things. Consequently we yielded a second time, although reluctantly.

Just before we flew to Sydney, we were told that the San Diego chapter of the International Gay Rodeo Association had had some serious problems with the hotel during their late-1997 event. Unable to find anyone who would talk about it, we assumed that the hotel had gotten into trouble over the rodeo function and was again on probation. I contacted the hotel but was told that everything was okay, that our convention was going to be a huge success.

Only a couple of days after we returned from Down Under to a monster pile of mail and messages, Town & Country's national sales manager called me up and solemnly advised that we could not sell our magazine at the convention, nor could we display any nudity whatsoever at our art exhibit. Again the reason given was the probation. "The Atlas VPs are in a state of panic," he said in a confidential manner. Knowing that it was too late to find another hotel and assuming that a threat of a lawsuit wouldn't faze a hotel owner who was up against the wall (and in possession of $50,000 of CRPI deposits), I said that I would agree only if the hotel would reduce our food costs commensurate with our anticipated loss of sales for magazines and artwork. The manager agreed and asked me to write a letter that would outline the areas of concern and how we planned to address same. "It will reassure the Atlas VPs that you are in control of your people, which will calm them down," he said convincingly. I wrote the letter and mailed it, confident that it would defuse the mounting hysteria.

While rushing to advise staffers and artists of the censorship, the word got out about the magazine being banned, and the usual last minute flurry of late "A" package registrations dried up. There was a rumor that rooms would be subject to search, followed by talk of mass cancellations. Succeeding in squelching that rumor, late registrations began to trickle in, but virtually all of them for the "B" package. Then came a fire storm over a letter I quickly sent out to the "B" package delegates, asking them to reconsider avoiding the main events. (If you were on the verge of a $40,000 shortfall on "A" packages and had already paid huge downpayments for entertainers, what would you do?) My suspicions were confirmed. Men from coast to coast were actually encouraging others to boycott the "A" package! I got hate mail from guys who called me paranoid and a sociopath (I should take more Prozac, they snorted gleefully) while freely admitting participation in the boycott. I was told that a huge contingent from Palm Springs and San Diego would crash the gathering. I was told of any number of private parties that would take advantage of the expected draw to San Diego, including conflicting banquets hosted by organizations we've gone out of our way to help over the years.

Then came "Bad Day at Black Rock." On April 6th, Atlas Hotels' vice president of marketing faxed me a copy of a response letter he had mailed that same date. The letter actually made me physically ill. It was oozing with rank

homophobia and filled with demands and threats. It was quite obvious to me that the letter I was asked to write previously had been insidiously used against us. My outlining the areas of concern was now being interpreted as a warning that we were going to be bad little boys. The owners didn't want assurances; they wanted a paper trail justification to cancel the gathering! I had been set up; our contract meant nothing. In the letter, the VP expressed concern over our "potential misconduct," and refused to lower food costs to make up for our loss of magazine sales. His words: "the hotel will not offer your group any discount or incentives to offset whatever profits you may have anticipated from activities which violate hotel policy." He went on to warn that the hotel would employ security it deemed necessary and backcharge CRPI. He spoke of "evictions" and the "cancelling of events." And then the death blow: "The hotel is not interested in hosting any group where constant monitoring of behavior is necessary to ensure that guests comply with the law."

For the next two days, both of us seemed to be in shock. The Atlas VP and Town & Country's national sales manager called me to follow up and demanded that we meet with them in San Diego. I told them to go fuck themselves and spent the next couple of days looking for a good contract law attorney. When I found the one I wanted, the first thing he suggested was to set up the meeting Atlas wanted.

The attorney joined Bruce and me for a meeting with the Atlas vice presidents of marketing and operations, whose attitudes had only gotten worse. They insisted upon full censorship and blanket security and warned that they would shut us down rather than risk another complaint with ABC. It was evident to me that taking their hotel out of harm's way was a much higher priority than the income they would realize from our convention. Better to destroy CRPI than Town & Country. Our attorney, a young and handsome gay Filipino-American, calmly told them that they were looking at a discrimination lawsuit (would they have treated a religious group the same, and did they know that their gift shop was selling *Penthouse*?) and damages due to breach of contract. Incredibly, Atlas didn't have an attorney present. Instead, they admitted to relying upon the advice of a retired Alcoholic Beverage Control enforcer, who had apparently convinced them that Town & Country could be set up for a death-blow complaint during our convention—sort of a three-strikes-and-you're-out situation. Finally our attorney was able to get through to them with a vivid description of the magnitude of the lawsuits we intended to file. He also hinted of a few far-reaching consequential damages they never considered. The VPs, still red-faced over the *Penthouse* revelation, blinked. An interim agreement was therefore quickly reached to lift the stalemate, but our projected losses were only cut by around 10%. The bottom line was that the convention would proceed, saving CRPI's ass for the time being.

There was no sigh of relief, of course. We were still dealing with a wounded lion, and any brazen act by one of our delegates could have gotten the convention shut down. Just before the convention started, I finally got through to an anonymous source with the gay rodeo hierarchy who told me the hotel had inflicted the same 11th hour tactics on them in late 1997. Although a lot of attendees of the gay rodeo festivities didn't notice what was happening, those in charge tell a much more harrowing story of rough evictions and surly treatment. Little wonder that the rodeo celebration will no longer be held at the Town & Country.

As our event drew near, I felt compelled to protect our interests even more. I contacted several gay media journalists and invited two who were interested in doing a story. I increased our staff to include a couple of videographers who would monitor activities and document any bad behavior, either at the hands of a delegate or hotel's security. I contacted the San Diego Convention Bureau and filled them in on what was going on. Of course, they were quite concerned, because such a situation could compromise all the work they've done trying to convince the world that San Diego is great for gay conventions. I contacted an openly gay city council member in San Diego. She too was concerned and even contacted Atlas to urge them not to give San Diego a black eye.

On the eve of the gathering, Bruce and I were emotional wrecks. Neither of us could manage a good night's rest, and in order to get all the details finished, we were having to work every waking moment. Of the four friends we had scheduled to help us at crunch time, two became very ill. One almost died in our house! I shudder to think what would have happened had Aussies KOALA and SPINNER not been here to help.

When we arrived in San Diego, something wonderful happened. FURRY DADDY, BAY AREA TOP, DENNY B., FREDDY GATOR, OK HANK, WAY-FARER, NEILL D., HAMHOCK, JIM EDMONDS, THE COLONEL, GERMEX, CHOCOLAD, BABY BEAR, PHOTO-MAN, BIG MAC, KIM BEAR, TOMCAT, SNOWFIRE, PAPA BEAR, AVIATOR, CHET OF HAWAII, TINY, MAINE JIM, and OK DAVE jumped in BIG TIME as key staffers. They were told what was at stake, and they nailed it for us. Outstanding performances were also turned in by THE SLUT PATROL, JOHN McNEILL, JOHN KILPATRICK, JAY BEHR, BRENT J., PLOVER, JAMES S., and a mysterious MR. X JAZZ PIANIST. Our registration volunteers did an outstanding job, and artists SAM SAITO, BARRIE TINKLER, KEMUSH, WALTER MITTY, and RAY ROMERO knocked delegates out with awesome (albeit censored) artwork.

As expected, the crashers came in abundance, and many were escorted out. Many more got by with it, thanks to the inept contract security we were forced to hire. They spent much more time shooting the shit with hotel security than checking for wrist bands. Some "A" package delegates reported lost badges and got replacements, only to be seen later with "B" package friends who were wearing the original "A" badges. We caught four playing that game, but we know of quite a few more who weren't caught. Never before have we seen so many crashers with such foul attitudes. A San Diego source tells us that there was organized encouragement out of Palm Springs and San Diego to crash our gathering, but we have yet to track down the proof. Something like that wouldn't surprise us, however.

The two gay journalists didn't show up, so it's obvious to us that the gay

community in Southern California would rather hear about drag shows, twinky news and the latest hair removal system. Shame on me for believing that any gay media source would be the least bit interested in the civil rights of a bunch of older guys.

Exhausted, Bruce and I watched on Sunday night as the absolutely outstanding Sluts hosted the final night of dancing. On Saturday night, I had nervously watched as hotel security and the Atlas brass slithered around the periphery of the California Room, their beady eyes fixed on hands and crotches and their bodies coiled to pounce on anyone caught fondling another's butt on the dance floor. Well, it never happened on Saturday night, and we really didn't care if it did on Sunday night. *Shut us down on Sunday night? Go ahead, assholes. The party's over, and we wouldn't be caught dead in this place again.*

After breakfast on Monday morning, I settled up with the hotel's convention services staff (they and the food and beverage staff did an excellent job in spite of the owner's blitzkrieg) and ran into the hotel's national sales manager, the one who had set me up for the sucker punch.

He was ecstatic. "I think Atlas wants you back. Everything worked out really well."

"We'll think about coming back if you reimburse us for about fifty thousand plus in lost income, or when hell freezes over—whichever comes first." As he turned beet-red, I laughed and walked away, eventually joining Bruce, OK HANK, COCKATOO REX and SNOWY in the parking lot. We were off for some R & R in Las Vegas.

As I write this, our health has returned to normal, more or less. I have since been told by recently separated T & C managers that the hotel had been placed on probation for three years, a very severe punishment. One has to wonder just what T & C had to do to get such a crack on the ass, and my sources didn't disappoint: During the last alternative life-styles (predominantly heterosexual) convention in late 1996, a disgruntled server filed a complaint with the California ABC Board, charging that the hotel allowed the convention directors to stage entertainment featuring actual sexual activity (a woman giving a blow job to a man). A subsequent investigation not only confirmed the server's allegations but apparently provided evidence that this sort of leniency had gone on for years. Atlas execs were convinced that ABC would use our convention as an excuse to lower the boom and close the hotel. The only problem: If there was an ABC "plan," it became unraveled when there were no incidents of naughty behavior to report.

Since the hotel has another year and a half to go on their probation, we wish them luck in luring groups that aren't so darn nasty. If they start to attract the religious right groups, then perhaps they should consider placing Penthouse back behind the counter in the gift shops.

In closing, be advised that our next gathering will be completely different. There will be only one choice of package, offering a hell of a lot of D.J. dancing, workshops, art exhibits, pool parties, cocktail parties, a continental breakfast, a cocktail show, and a single Sunday night banquet. Our motto: Keep It Simple, Stupid, or KISS for short. We're making it less expensive as well.

We will again hire gay-friendly off-duty Orlando Police Officers, so security will not be the headache it was in San Diego. Crashers will be discreetly arrested, not merely escorted out. Those taking unauthorized video footage will be handed a receipt for their confiscated camera, not a warning.

As for the gathering location for 2000, we'll let you know. It won't be in Southern California again anytime soon. Sources in state government here tell us that the religious right has found new ways to impose their "values" on others through various state agencies. The much-feared San Diego divisions of ABC are having a sobering effect on establishments holding liquor licenses in Northern and Southern San Diego counties. There is a strict code of behavior on the books state-wide, but the extent of enforcement varies. We predict the Rancho Mirage (Palm Springs area) division to follow the lead of San Diego and turn up the heat on some of the wilder events in Palm Springs later this year. All it takes is a group whose guests like to walk on the wild side and one pissed-off hotel employee with a camera.

See you in Orlando. KISS, KISS!
PAT & BRUCE

THE 9TH ANNUAL CHIRON RISING SPRING GATHERING IN ORLANDO

May 27 - 31, 1999

We're now in the process of redesigning the 1999 convention in Orlando, so we aren't officially advertising it with registration forms and delegate agreements in this issue. We know it will be on Memorial Day Weekend at the Twin Towers, and we know that it will be leaner, more streamlined, and easier on the pocketbook. The formal offering for Gathering 99 will be announced in CR #86. In the meantime, we are announcing this **insane** early bird sale:

$99

(see order form in this issue)

The sale expires on **July 31, 1998**, so get your payment in right away. This price includes all workshops, art exhibits, recitals, cocktail parties (3), d.j. dancing (3 nights), pool parties (ongoing), a farewell continental breakfast, a cocktail show on Saturday night, and a gala banquet on Sunday night. Cancellations can be made at any time, but refunds will be made only in credit for CR merchandise. No cash refunds except in the case of health emergencies. After July 31, the price will go up substantially. There will be no "B" packages available, nor will we offer special per-event or day passes.

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